

Guardian Wednesday June 24 1998

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Thursday June 25 1998

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Australia 1.00	Hong Kong 0.50	Poland 1.00
Belgium 1.00	India 1.00	Portugal 1.00
Canada 1.00	Italy 1.00	Spain 1.00
China 1.00	Japan 1.00	Sweden 1.00
France 1.00	South Korea 1.00	Switzerland 1.00
Great Britain 1.00	Taiwan 1.00	USA 1.00
Ireland 1.00	Thailand 1.00	
Italy 1.00	USA 1.00	
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INTERNATIONAL

The Guardian

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Hugo Young comments

Why the Sun no longer matters

This section page 8



50 years on

Special NHS birthday G2

With European weather



Sport

France '98 and the rest

This section pages 13-20

Middle England revolt fear leaves Prescott stranded

Blair vetoes car curbs

Keith Harper
Transport Editor

TOUGH new laws to penalise motorists for excessive car use have been abandoned by the Government after fear of stirring up an angry protest from middle England, it was confirmed last night.

Tony Blair has ruled that the Government cannot afford to stir up controversy on such a sensitive issue. While he is not opposed to legislation, he has made it clear it cannot be introduced in the next session of Parliament.

The decision has disappointed the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, who was said yesterday to be still battling for concessions. He has been arguing for greater curbs on car use, and his forthcoming white paper on an integrated transport policy will argue strongly for better public transport and less use of the car.

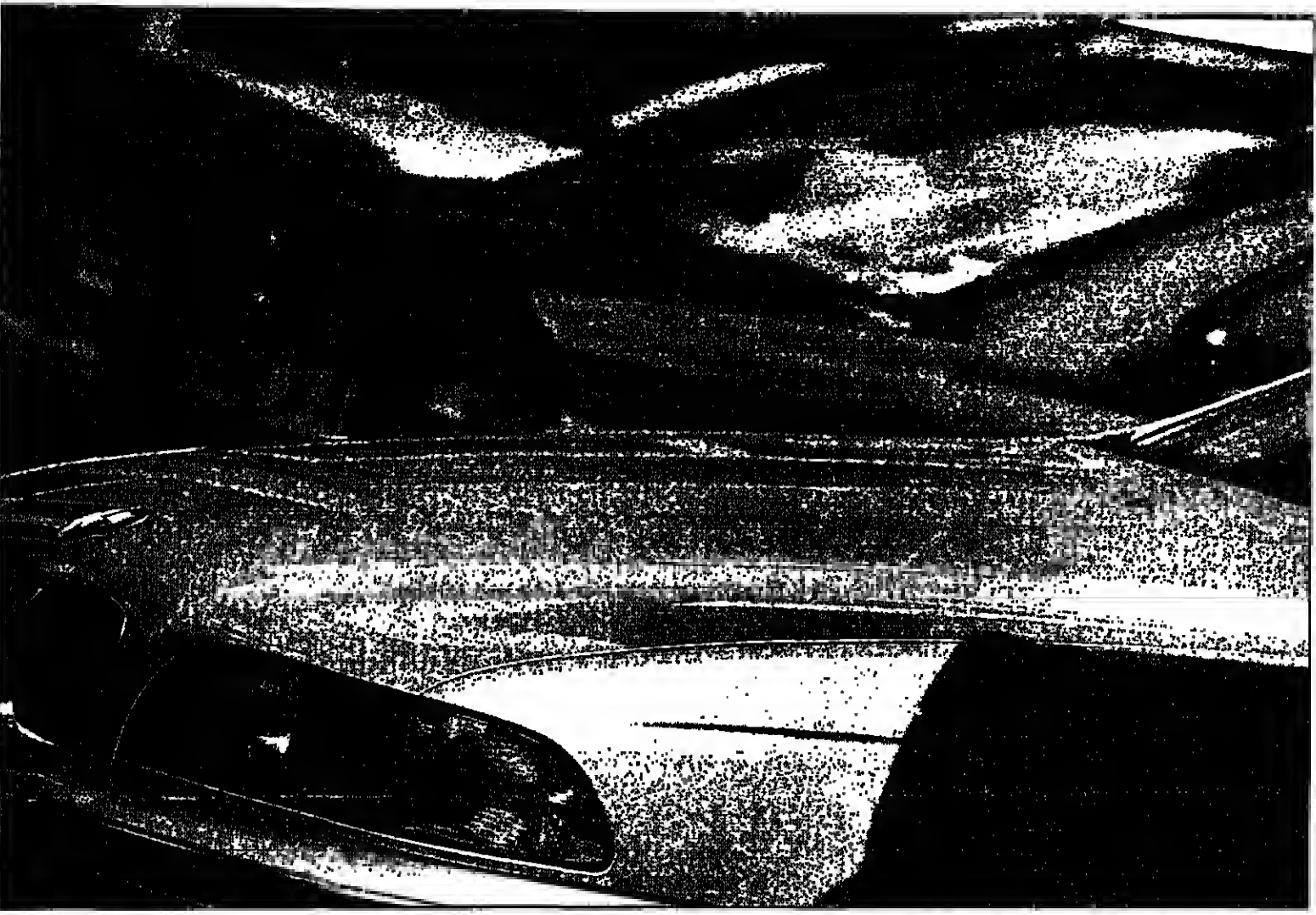
It had been rumoured that motorists could be asked to pay between £2 and £10 a day in congestion charges. The money, collected by local authorities, would be ploughed back into public transport in their areas.

But leaks from Downing Street have suggested Mr Blair does not share Mr Prescott's enthusiasm for immediate action, even though there appears to be widespread support for it.

The Transport Minister, Gavin Strang, reflected the Government's position yesterday when he said: "High-earning car owners need have no fear from next month's white paper. There is no question of our discouraging car ownership. We want to reduce car dependency and car usage."

"Echoing remarks by Mr Prescott this week, Mr Strang said getting people to alter travel habits was a question of 'persuasion and choice'. He said: "It's not about compulsion and it's not about making people worse off."

Mr Strang, answering questions about transport grants and the growing dominance of the car, suggested the decision should be left to the motorist public. "We are faced with a big challenge but we are optimistic. People under-



Car control is all about persuasion and choice, not compulsion or penalties, the transport white paper is expected to say

PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GOWEN

stand that we can't go on the way we are in terms of congestion and pollution."

Transport and environmental groups last night described the Government's decision as a lame retreat.

Stephen Joseph, director of the Transport 2000 lobby group, has criticised the delay of the white paper until the last moment. He said: "The public is expecting some action. If the Government does not act, it will turn public opinion against it."

The white paper has been ready for several months but Mr Blair's doubts about action on car use and Mr Prescott's long-running battle with the Treasury to raise

'High-earning car owners need have no fear from next month's white paper'

Gavin Strang, Transport Minister

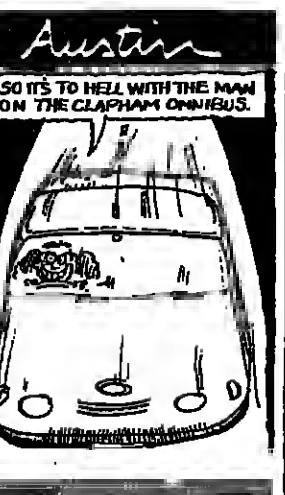
money to pay for his transport projects have delayed it repeatedly. It is now planned for publication in the last week of Parliament. This would avoid debate as MPs depart for the summer recess. The presentation of the white paper, the first important transport statement for

more than 20 years, is crucial to Mr Prescott. It will include a variety of ideas to curb the car use from road pricing to congestion charging, as well as action to regulate buses and tougher controls on the railways to stem the waste of taxpayers' money.

Mr Prescott will be able to say that nothing is ruled out, but that the Government has a difficult legislative year ahead with Northern Ireland at the core.

His department is preparing to head off accusations that the motorist will escape being penalised. Draft legislation exists to allow trials for congestion charges in cities such as Edinburgh, Bristol and Leicester.

The schemes would be voluntary. Drivers using electronic smart cards fitted to windshields would be charged for using certain routes into city centres. Charges would vary, depending on the time of day and pollution levels.



Bombers strike on eve of Ulster poll

Inla blamed for attack after six people injured in border village

John Mulvan
Ireland Correspondent

REPUBLICAN dissidents delivered a stark reminder of the fragility of peace in Northern Ireland when a huge explosion ripped through a south Armagh village on the eve of today's historic elections to the new assembly.

The Irish National Liberation Army (Inla) was linked to the car bomb attack on a combined RUC station and army base in Newtownhamilton, near the border in Co Armagh. The Inla is opposed to the Good Friday Agreement, which sets out the proposed framework for government in Northern Ireland.

A 12-year-old boy was taken to Daisy Hill Hospital in nearby Newry with chest injuries but was last night said to be stable.

Another five people suf-

fered minor injuries. Police said that two warning calls to Belfast news organisations gave them too little time to evacuate the village square, where the vehicle was parked. One caller used a recognised Inla code word.

The organisation is one of three republican terror groups against the IRA's ceasefire, which was restored last July. Also opposed are Continuity IRA and the so-called True IRA, a recently formed group around the IRA's former quartermaster-general.

Security forces fear the three are working together in an effort to wreck the agreement.

Paul Murphy, political development minister, said: "The timing of this attack is clearly designed to cause fear and anxiety among people as they go to the polls. This act of violence is against democracy and against the spirit of all that the people of Northern Ireland have embraced for the future."



The scene of the car bomb explosion in Newtownhamilton

"We will not be deflected from the path the Good Friday Agreement has set us on by violence or threats from extremist groups whose only aim is to deny the people the peaceful and stable future they have chosen."

Scores of buildings in Newtownhamilton were affected, although the police station, which had recently been reinforced, escaped the worst of the blast.

The community centre was badly damaged. It was to have been today's polling station, and efforts to make alternative arrangements were under way.

Andrew Clarke, whose home was badly damaged in a Continuity IRA car bomb attack in Markethill, County Armagh, nine months ago, saw her business premises wrecked.

The attack came the day



after a small bomb exploded near Crossmaglen, also in south Armagh. No one was hurt in that attack, which is being linked to the True IRA.

Brendan Curran, chair of Newry and Mourne Council, said: "This action is clearly intended to undermine the current opportunity for peace. It must not be allowed to do so."

Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Demo-

cratic and Labour Party and MP for Newry and Armagh, said: "The terrorists who did this cannot live with the thought that the people here could live a normal life, and so they have brought treacherous abnormality back to our streets."

Ken Maginnis, security spokesman for the Ulster Unionists, said: "It is not unexpected that militant republicanism would try to disrupt the election and attempt to give encouragement to those who say No to progress."

"But people will know what this is about and will react as to the terrorists as they have done for the past 28 years, and that is to reject them."

Today's elections will return six candidates from each of the 18 Westminster constituencies using the single transferable vote system.

Counting will begin tomorrow and most results are expected to be declared by early evening.

Docklands bomb conviction, page 4

Britain

World News

Finance

Sport

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Quick Crossword 15
Weather, Radio & TV 16

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Sketch

Rebel dampens PM's sunny day



Simon Hoggart

THE front page of yesterday's Sun asked of Mr Blair: "Is this the most dangerous man in Britain?" Obviously the Prime Minister expected to be asked about this at Question Time, so he arranged for George Turner (Lab, Norfolk NW) to ask a supportive question.

Mr Turner, the original natterjack today, inquired sycophantically whether he had been "shocked, amused or flattered". Then he added, "more seriously . . . as if it had all been a lighthearted joke and the Tories collapsed with derisive laughter."

Mr Blair, equally well prepped, wished the Sun had put a more flattering description in the headline, such as "He has the potential to be a truly great Prime Minister". Then he added sternly that newspapers had the right to print what they liked, but he intended to govern in the national interest.

This was all roughly as impromptu as the embarrassing banter you hear at a Royal Variety Performance. Mr Blair and Rupert Murdoch are great friends. If they are now pretending to have had a falling out, then there is some deeper, perhaps darker, reason which will remain hidden from the rest of us who exist mainly to be manipulated by them.

Peter Lilley, the deputy leader of the Conservative Party, then challenged him over welfare payments. William Hague has been ill with a virus for several days. Mr Lilley sounded querulous by comparison, rather like Dr Niles Crane in the television sitcom *Frasier* (featuring that someone has forgotten to change his vintage Marquise "Bring back Slicknote!" shouted Dennis Skinner).

Alain Belfin, standing in for

Paddy Ashdown, wondered gently whether the Sun's attack might make Mr Blair think again about press magnates with near monopolies and their predatory pricing policies. Mr Blair kicked into his faux naïf mode. "Just because a newspaper expresses a view on the single currency is no reason why we should start legislating on it."

Vincent Cable, a Liberal Democrat, asked whether it was not time to get the whole single currency business out of the way with a referendum before the next election. "The Sun has set out your strategy," he said. Mr Cable is my MP, so I'm sure he will not mind if I say that he usually looks hunched, saturnine and brooding. Yesterday he was smiling broadly at his own little joke, so that he looked like Igor taking a particularly fresh brain back to Dr Frankenstein.

Then the whole session went pear-shaped for the Prime Minister. Mr Lilley made — for him — a fairly effective attack on the extraordinary fact that English, Welsh and Northern Ireland students have to pay more to go to Scottish universities than people from other European Union countries. (The cord votes, but the relevant clause on Tuesday.)

Mr Blair began to blather. It was all to do with maintenance grants and fairness to other British universities. None of this sounded very convincing. But then neither did Mr Lilley.

Up rose Denis Canavan, an old unreconstructed Labour leftie. Mr Canavan was clearly stone-cold sober but, like many passionate Scots, sounded as if he is permanently drunk. He sarcastically requested permission to ask "an awkward question", and proceeded to repeat everything Mr Lilley had just said, as if he had been sleeping off his lunch for the previous 10 minutes.

But so angry was he, so articulate and so savage in his contempt for the Labour lickspittles who never ask an awkward question, that dozens of Tories stood up for him, cheering and waving their order papers — a sight as astounding as seeing bare-chested tattooed English fans cheering a Colombian goal tomorrow night.

Development Secretary accuses Labour MPs of stoking old row over Sudan 'compassion fatigue'

Short stands by aid claim

Lucy Ward Political Correspondent

THE International Development Secretary, Clare Short, yesterday clashed with Labour MPs who accused her of failing to answer claims that more humanitarian aid was needed to ease the crisis in Sudan.

Ms Short, summoned before the International Development Committee, rebuked critics for seeking to "stoke an old row", and strongly defended her view that gaining access to areas beset by civil war remained the key obstacle to delivering supplies.

In a hearing marked by sharp exchanges between her and the Labour leftwingers

Bernie Grant and Ann Clwyd, the Development Secretary stood by her comments last month that aid agencies were risking "compassion fatigue" through emotive funding appeals that made people "hunch and turn away".

Accusing critics of "hysteria" and "misrepresentation", she told MPs she regretted only the "misreporting" by the "mad media".

The committee, two of whose members have recently visited disaster areas in Sudan, summoned her after she bewailed development agencies earlier this month by claiming that a public emergency appeal that raised millions of pounds for the region was unnecessary and misleading. Government aid was adequate, she told charities.

Yesterday, she insisted that the problem for the region was access, not resources. Though the Sudanese government had lifted a ban on aid flights in April, it remained difficult to reach the worst-affected areas, since permission had to be sought for each flight. Roads and rail links in Sudan, struggling amid civil war for 30 years, are considered too hazardous to transport aid.

Far from seeking to limit funding to the region, the British government had warned the World Food Programme three months ago that its assessment of the access and resources required was too low, Ms Short said.

Ms Clwyd, who has sought to raise awareness of the Sudan crisis in Parliament,

read out a letter from aid agencies suggesting that too little money had been made available by international governments.

Ms Short replied: "Is it most helpful for people like you to keep going over and over this ground, or is it most helpful for us all to combine, as the NGOs agree to get more aid in?"

Dennis Canavan, another Labour member of the committee, told Ms Short there seemed to be "almost a conflict between your department and yourself and the NGOs — possibly most of the NGOs". Ms Short replied that her remarks had sparked "a big public debate about the nature of assistance to Sudan".

The Development Secretary

believes overseas aid should target longer-term development problems, to strike at the heart of disasters, rather than focusing piecemeal on immediate crises. In a speech last month to a conference organised by Disasters from Disaster Zones, she warned:

"If it is all humanitarian we are just going round in an endless cycle that never reaches a solution. The cycle is fantastically destructive."

Her comments prompted Peter Walker, director of disaster policy for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to hit back. "It is a hit like blaming 999 crews because we have a lot of road accidents."

Labour MP Tess Kingham, a former charity worker, wel-

comed suggestions that serial disaster appeals were not enough, but told Ms Short her comments had sparked public concern "because people were feeling you were saying 'don't give to humanitarian aid'".

Ms Short stressed she had invited aid groups to talk to her about how the Government could "co-ordinate aid" appeals, leaving the groups more time for relief work.

Challenged by Ms Clwyd over apparent discrepancies between the current government assessment of need and the view of aid workers in Sudan, Ms Short suggested those on the ground could not always see the full picture. Aid agencies, "like everyone else . . . never say we've got enough of everything," she said.

'If William and Harry see me as some kind of interfering uncle they don't want to see, I'm sure they will make it clear'

Earl Spencer



Earl Spencer on television last night: 'I respect the Queen enormously but know other members of the royal family less well'

Brother fails to conjure up Diana magic

Spencer's BBC interview lends a lie to Dodi marriage myth and offers no regrets for that speech. **Luke Harding reports**

WE HAVE seen several Earl Spencers in recent months. There has been the grieving brother, the unfaithful husband, and the acerbic attacker who famously stuck one into the Windsors.

Last night the 34-year-old earl slipped back into an old persona, becoming again the thing he once was, a television presenter.

In a 45-minute interview with the BBC the earl talked about his sister Diana's death and paid tribute to his two nephews Princes William and Harry.

He also revealed that he wrote his famous Westminster Abbey address at 4.30am the day before the funeral and took back none of his cutting references to "blood family".

"I'm not going to sit here and criticise my relatives," he said, making it clear he would make the same speech again, given half the chance.

"I respect the Queen enormously but know other members of the royal family less well."

Cynics might suggest the timing of last night's broadcast was not entirely coincidental. Next week the doors of the Spencer estate, Althorp, will be flung open to the public, and the first pilgrims will be able to pay their respects to Diana, who is buried on an island in the middle of an ornamental lake.

The earl has borrowed millions to finance the conversion of an old stable block into a Diana museum, and yet some of the 59.50 tickets remain unsold. Ten per cent of the proceeds will go to the charity, with the rest going to pay off his large overdraft.

The earl made clear last night, to her credit, the BBC interviewer Sally Magnusson did not huck the big questions. "Wasn't he just creating a tourist Disneyland?" she asked.

"On the figures I've got we're going to make quite a big loss this year," the earl replied wistfully.

What about the charge that he was a hypocrite in complaining about tallowid intru-

sion, having sold his story to *Heil* for a six-figure sum? "I don't go along with that," he said, recounting how a tabloid editor had phoned his divorce hearing last year and made it clear he was out to get the unfortunate earl.

Had he considered the feelings of Prince Charles, when he made his Westminster Abbey speech attacking the Windsors?

"Really I was picking up on the magic of Diana," he said. "It was a tribute to Diana. I wasn't taking any swipes at anyone."

Come off it, Ms Magnusson interjected, you virtually brought down the royal family. "I wasn't aware of that," the earl replied deadpan.

As for William and Harry: "If they see me as some kind of interfering uncle they don't want to see. I'm sure they will make it clear."

The reality, as he is well aware, is that the Windsors have one of their best to freeze him out.

As for William and Harry, they recently decided to spend their summer holiday with their father, rather than the earl's sister Lady Sarah McCorquodale.

There were moments when the earl's interview had the feel of a glossy corporate video. At other times it was genuinely moving, with old cine footage of a gamine, tiny Diana larking around for the camera.

Her old school uniform was displayed, as was her passport as a child, together with a letter she wrote to "mummy and daddy" complaining of a power cut.

There were the dresses hanging in an ornate store room, some worn words about the woman herself. "She had an incredible sense

of humour. She was great fun to be with. A really entertaining person," the earl said.

He admitted that they had fallen out when Diana had asked whether she could use the Althorp estate as a bolt-hole when her marriage crumbled. He had refused, and Diana had severed contact with him for several months.

Lord Spencer dismissed the idea that she was about to marry Dodi Fayed at the time of her death, and the conspiracy theories which have swirled around their deaths. "Monstrous really," he said.

It was, all in all, the kind of polished performance you would expect from a former NBC presenter. But why, one wondered, did the earl feel it necessary to talk at all?

Fury over Diana park, page 4; Beatrice Campbell, page 5; Leader comment, page 9

What is more, the earl said, he was a hypocrite in complaining about tallowid intru-

side. He looked drunk. "The hospital said that Mr Turner, who had switched off a monitoring alarm and pressed a security button to leave the ward, was 'sedated but conscious' and had slipped out during an emergency in the coronary unit."

He had previously wandered off down a corridor and, several hours before

his flit, had got as far as three floors below the ward when he was stopped, warning a surgeon's operating pumps and carrying surgical gel.

"The problem with hospitals is that they aren't prisons and although there are security measures they are mainly to stop people coming in rather than stop them getting out," said a

spokesman, adding that the infirmary did not enjoy "losing" people.

Mr Turner, of Woodlands Drive, Morley, said that he was sanguine about doctors' advice not to tackle any hills until he recovers fully. His semi-conscious route home, he said, "must have involved walking up a fair few, though I don't remember them."

John Martin of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, when he was a surgeon, said that he was a quality of a lifetime, a quality that he was proud to have. "I wanted a quality of a lifetime, a quality that he was proud to have."

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Review

Poignant journey into a lost world

Michael Billington

The Old Neighbourhood Royal Court Downstairs

DAVID Mamet constantly writes about the fear and fantasy that underlies male bluster. But his latest play, though deeply personal, sounds a wider, more universal note. It is about the mid-life sense of loss, about awareness of mortality and about abandonment of community in a deeply individualistic age. It is as poignant as anything Mamet has written.

Running only 80 minutes, it takes the form of three interwoven scenes in which the hero, Bobby Gould (Mamet's alter ego), returns home in search of his roots.

In the first and most typically Mamet-esque encounter Bobby meets an old buddy, Joey. Beneath all the hullabaloo, what you hear is the sound of pain. Filled with reminiscence and the corrosive sadness of missed chances, it is, if you can imagine such a thing, like a Jewish version of the *Shallow Silence* scenes in Shakespeare's *Henry IV Part Two*.

In the second scene, Bobby meets his married sister, Jolly, seething in her kitchen over her maltreatment by her inherited gentle relations. "One thousand generations we've been Jews," she cries. "My mother marries a shei-getz and we're celebrating Christmas."

The piece is suffused with a yearning for a lost past — in

this case the sibling intimacies of childhood — and a resentment of the humiliations resulting from their late mother's marrying out.

Finally, Bobby meets up with an old flame, Deeny, a divorcee who works in the cosmetics department at Marshall Fields. As she talks of everything from gardens to tribal rituals, what you sense is the impossibility of rekindling a passion that has its moment but that has now irrevocably passed.

Although writing specifically about the loss of Jewish identity and the perils of assimilation, Mamet is also dealing with the Chekhovian theme of what-might-have-been. Bobby becomes the epitome of anyone who returns to his past and is confronted by age, change, lost time and missed chances. This is Mamet at his most autobiographical and yet his most universal.

Needless to say, he also shows his usual uncanny ear for the elliptical rhythms of everyday speech, something well caught in Patrick Marber's fine production played out against William Dudley's sepia images of a lost communal life.

Colin Stinton captures with deadly accuracy Bobby's steadily accumulating despair and there is time work from Zoe Wanamaker as the enraged, jaundiced Jolly, from Linal Haft as the falsely nostalgic Joey and from Diana Quick as Deeny.

This review appeared in some later editions yesterday.

Martin Walmsworth

A HEART-ATTACK victim is recovering after of a hospital coronary ward in his sleep and trekking five miles home in the rain, wearing only pyjamas and carpet slippers.

Woody with sedatives and heart drugs, Michael

Turner, aged 48, a factory shift manager, unclipped computer monitors and slipped out from Leeds general infirmary unchecked, despite two previous "escape attempts" earlier in the night.

Mr Turner, who said that he "couldn't remember a thing about it", wandered through Leeds centre, passed Elland Road football

ground and crossed the city's ring road before arriving home at 5.20am.

He told his distraught wife Sandra, who had been rung by the hospital when nursing staff noticed he was missing at 3am: "Hello, I've been jogging." She said yesterday: "I was frantic with worry and I just burst into tears. He was standing there, swaying from side to

side. He looked drunk."

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It's pocket-sized with a hook up to the internet. A complete office on a Smart p

Smart p

Don't join the standard of the new smart

CONSUMERS will soon be able to buy a pocket-sized mobile phone allowing them to see the world they are talking to, up to the internet, and a computer to organise their time, block unwanted calls and act as a complete office on the move.

The mobile phone companies makers of hundreds of operators alike — have used a campaign to convince the world that wireless portable communications are not just for business, but for ordinary users.

The world's three largest makers of mobile phones — Ericsson and Motorola — yesterday joined forces to promote a computer, computer and a 250 mil-

Leaky, rusty

Doors stick, battery fails, hydraulics collapse, US owner alleges inaction against Lamborghini

WREN you are paying an asking price of well over a quarter of a million dollars, you do not want your new Lamborghini to be a lemon.

The doors to get stuck, the battery to fail, the hydraulics to collapse. Or the engine to stall.

In all of that allegedly happened to John Martin of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, when he bought a new Lamborghini Diablo in 1995.

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351

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In the beginning As Richard Gordon contributed a National Health Colin Douglas on G2 NHS at 5

AS about 100,000 people who were not involved in the disaster, the public's compassion for the victims of the Manchester bombing has begun to fade. This is a natural process, say experts, but it is also a warning sign that the public's tolerance for the cost of the war on terrorism is running out.



na magic

...the public's tolerance for the cost of the war on terrorism is running out.

...the public's tolerance for the cost of the war on terrorism is running out.

351
RAILTRACK



It's pocket-sized with a screen, can hook up to the Internet, block unwanted calls and act as a complete office on the move

The future is mobile

The mobile phone of the future will be more of a mobile office.

Computing
Word-processing software will enable people to write, amend and store documents with the aid of a small fold-out keyboard with rollerball. Will be able to send and receive e-mail.

Shopping
Mobile banking for statements and withdrawals/deposits (with a smart-card).

Internet access
Full colour graphic Internet (and corporate Intranet) services from 1999.

Virtual secretary
Voice-activated pre-programmed database of all your appointments and contacts. It will take messages, collect callers' numbers, organise taxis, arrange meetings, organise conference calls.

Switchboard
Can marshal a group of mobile phones and organise group conference calls, extension numbers and hunt group dialling.

Faxes
Can send faxes with a time delay 1 required and more when based overseas.

Video phones
A new, larger breed of mobile phone will allow you to see as well as hear your caller and set up video conferences.

Global reach
Mobile satellite services from September 1999, giving total global coverage.

Unusually mobile UK
9m
22m

Smart phones ring the changes

Simon Beavis
Media Business Editor

CONSUMERS will soon be able to buy a pocket-sized mobile phone allowing them to see the person they are talking to, hook up to the Internet, employ a computer to organise their time, block unwanted calls and act as a complete office on the move.

The world's three largest makers of mobile phones — Nokia, Ericsson and Motorola — yesterday joined forces with the portable computer company Psion in a £100 million joint venture to develop a standard of software to power the new machines.

Nokia and Ericsson will put £40 million into the venture — to be called Symbian — and promised to be able to deliver the first of a new generation of smart phones by late 1999, with handheld personal "communicators" following on.

They will use Psion's EPOC operating system — a software developed for use in hand-held machines. Psion will charge licensees using the software \$10 (\$5 for each mobile phone and \$5 (\$3) per communicator — charges it believes will keep the ultimate costs of the new systems down.

David Potter, Psion's chairman and chief executive, cited a recent report from the US consultants, International Data Corp, that said PCs "will be dwarfed" by demand for inexpensive consumer devices with built-in communication abilities.

Psion expects the new, smart devices to make up as much as 15 per cent of all mobile phones by 2002 — when there will be an estimated 600 million phones worldwide, compared with 200 million now.

"This deal places Psion right at the heart of the rapidly developing mobile market," he said. The market shared his optimism, lifting the Psion share price by 143.5p to 425p.

The companies believe it will allow them to attack the dominance of Microsoft's Windows CE system, which has been adapted from larger computer software packages for use in smaller palm-top systems.

Similar claims were being made by Orange — the third largest of the four mobile phone operators in Britain — on Tuesday when it coupled the announcement of sharper price cuts with the promise that it would bring out a

video phone, costing £500-£600 late next year.

Orange also unveiled its "wildfire" organiser system which can be used from any phone to sort calls, take messages, make bookings and send faxes and will be available this year.

A year ago analysts were predicting that the boom in mobile phones had peaked at just over 8 million in the UK and were likely to stagnate.

However, the last two quarters have seen some spectacular growth with experts suggesting that well over half a million new subscribers have been signed up in the second quarter of 1998.

Vodafone is predicting that by 2005 half the UK population will have a mobile phone. Orange reckons that landmark will be reached a year earlier.

Analysts take issue with such bullish forecasts, since they imply a huge growth in the number of ordinary consumers buying sophisticated handsets more geared towards business use.

They doubt that the four UK operators will be able to stimulate growth without cutting charges dramatically and therefore denting their profitability. The operators — Vodafone, Cellnet, Orange and One2One — are under investigation from the Monopolies Commission for alleged profiteering.

Chris Godsmark, telecoms analysts with Henderson Crosthwaite, says the mini-boom is being fuelled by price-cutting and pre-payment deals.

He doubts whether the technological advances will be much of a lure to ordinary users.

"I can't see many average punters doing spread sheets on a hand-held PC as they do the shopping at Sainsbury's," he said.

Drink-drive errors cost £400,000

Duncan Campbell
Crime Correspondent

NEARLY 60 people who were wrongly convicted of drink-driving because of a scientific error have been given hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation, it was confirmed yesterday.

As a result of the wrongful convictions, some people had seen their businesses collapse, some had suffered breakdowns and some had even attempted to commit suicide, according to lawyers acting for drivers.

The Home Office confirmed last night that 58 people have been compensated for their wrongful convictions on drink-driving charges in the Greater Manchester area between March 1987 and December 1988. There are a further 30 cases still to be settled in a legal dispute that has lasted nearly 10 years.

It is understood that around £400,000 in compensation has been paid, although the Home Office would not confirm the figure. The highest award is believed to be £20,000.

The errors happened because swabs impregnated with alcohol were unknowingly used by doctors taking blood samples from motorists undergoing drink-drive tests in the Greater Manchester area at that time. Other swabs had been rejected as not moist enough.

When forensic scientists realised that the alcohol-impregnated swabs would inevitably give a distorted reading, the convictions were quashed.

In 1991, the then Home Secretary Kenneth Baker instructed that compensation should be paid to those who had suffered distress or harm as a result of the errors. The Home Office appointed a QC to adjudicate claims in which claimants had to show how the conviction had adversely affected their lives.

Solicitor Peter Garsden said the settlements had been made depending on the damage that those wrongly convicted had suffered. He anticipated that others might now come forward.

"I feel there may be more people who had convictions quashed who can claim compensation," said Mr Garsden, whose 40 clients have received a total of £300,000.

French town braces itself for the battle of the hooligans

continued from page 1

up to them whether or not to close on Friday, but he made it pretty clear what he'd prefer and most seem to agree with him.

The mayor, André Delellis, has asked all supermarkets within a 30-mile radius of Lens to consider clearing their shelves of alcohol. Parents of pupils at one school have decided to keep their children home for the day.

Two events — a concert by Jimmy Cliff tonight and a BBC Roadshow for tomorrow afternoon — have been cancelled.

"We want to avoid any concentration of fans in one place, anything that may provide a flashpoint for violence of any kind," said Mr Jozek.

Many Lens bars, including the Zebulon, a favourite hang-out for the loud but peaceable supporters of Racing Club de Lens, the reigning French football champions, have already decided to go further than required by the prefect and will remain shut both today and tomorrow.

"Better a town dead for a day or two than a town destroyed," said one of its barmen, who asked not to be named.

"Football is supposed to be a party. I've got tickets and I was planning to take my son, but I won't be going. I'm taking the family to the seaside instead."

Leaky, rusty — yours for \$250,000

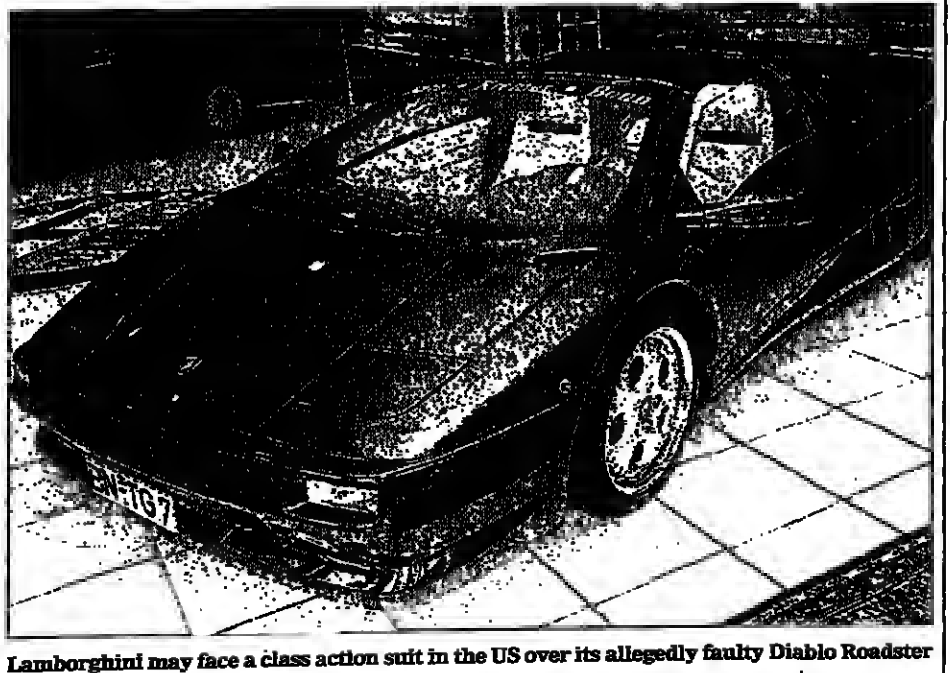
Doors stick, battery fails, hydraulics collapse, US owner alleges in action against Lamborghini

Martin Kettle in Washington

WHEN you are paying an asking price of well over a quarter of a million dollars, you do not expect your new Lamborghini Diablo's roof to leak.

Or the doors to get stuck. Or the battery to hit you on the head. Or the battery to fall. Or the horn not to function. Or the dashboard lights to flicker. Or the hydraulic system to collapse. Or the engine to stall.

Yet all of that allegedly happened to John Martin of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, when he sank much of his savings in his dream car of a lifetime, a 1997 Lamborghini Diablo Roadster. "I wanted a quality vehicle," Mr Martin said. "With all the money you're paying, you expect the best."



Lamborghini may face a class action suit in the US over its allegedly faulty Diablo Roadster

What is more, he and his lawyer are planning to bring what could be one of the most exclusive legal class actions of all time, on behalf of the 50 other super-rich American drivers — a group which includes the property tycoon Donald Trump — who have bought the handful of Diablos that are produced each year by the Lamborghini company in Modena, northern Italy.

It's the Lamborghini's vertically opening doors that are most truly diabolical, according to Mr Martin's lawyer, Saul Smolar. The windows are supposed to retract slightly to let the door rise, but often the windows get

stuck, preventing passengers from getting out. The doors also are part of the leaking problem, and the car fills with water every time it rains, Mr Smolar claims.

"There is not a Diablo that does not leak," he alleges. "You need an umbrella in the car if you are going to drive in the rain."

According to Mr Martin, his Diablo had to be taken to the garage for repairs more than 10 times, on the last occasion for nearly three weeks. Mr Martin said the dealership that sold him the car, Prestige Imports in North Miami Beach, refused at first to take it back.

Then in March, the car's makers sent Mr Martin a recall notice, offering to fix a switch in the door, and recommending that he drive with the windows slightly open at all times, rain or shine.

In the beginning quite a lot of it was there already. As Richard Gordon provocatively points out, Hitler contributed a good deal more to the setting up of the National Health Service than did Aneurin Bevan.

Colin Douglas on the threats to the grand ideal of free public health

G2 NHS at 50 special, page 2

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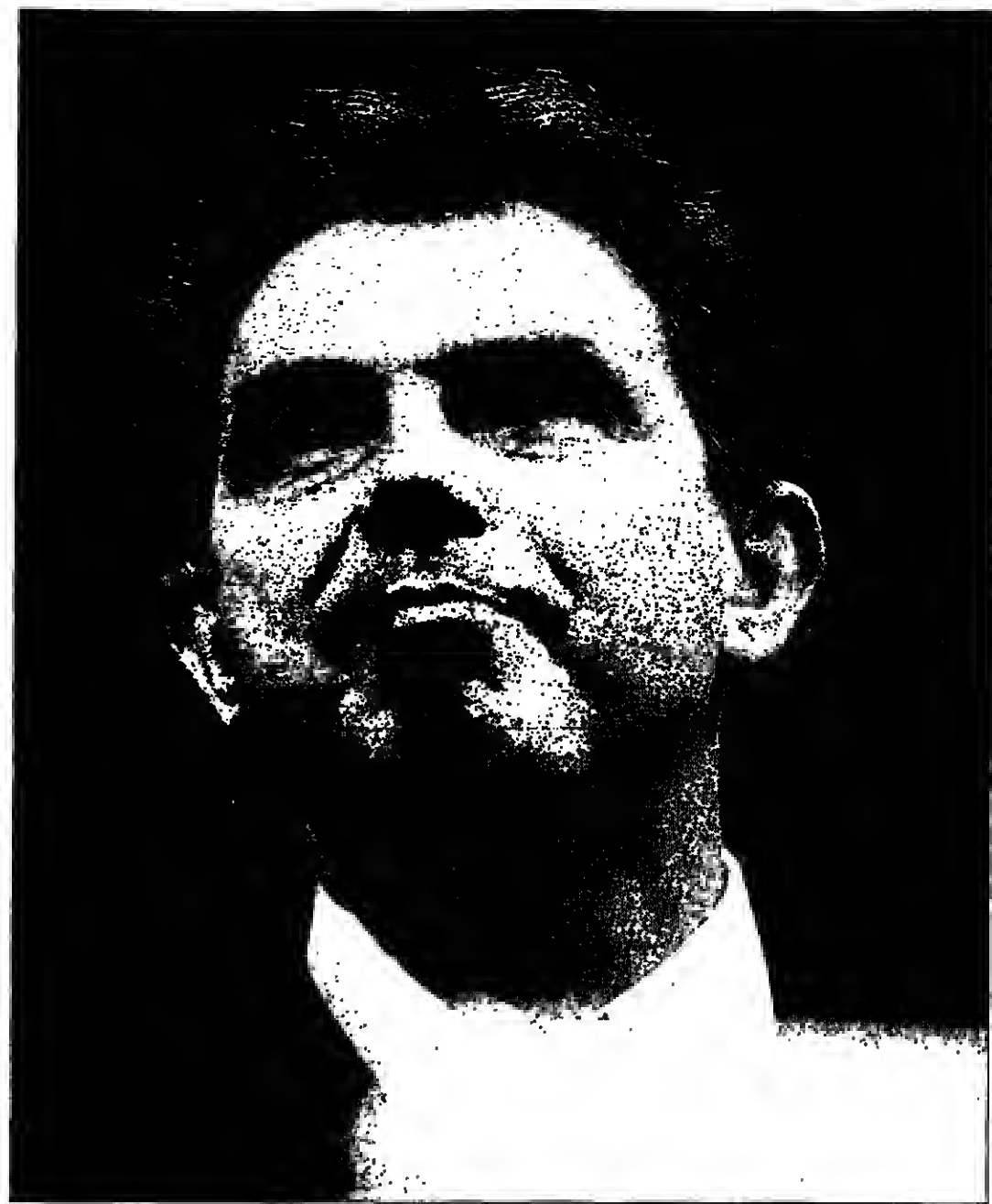
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Prime Minister reaffirms policy on Europe



Tony Blair, right, who has courted the tabloid flagship of Rupert Murdoch, left, backed off from a fight with the newspaper after it called him potentially 'the most dangerous man in Britain.' However, he sounded less enthusiastic than recently on the single currency, the subject of its bitter attack



Blair cooler on euro after Sun blast

Michael White
Political Editor

TONY BLAIR yesterday brushed aside the Sun's assault on his policy towards the European single currency and insisted that it remains unchanged and patriotically committed to British interests.

"We have a very firm policy. It was set out last October and will be maintained. That policy is in the national interest, because it refuses to rule

out a single currency in principle, and says the test is what is good for British jobs, British industry, British investment," he told MPs.

But it was noticeable that Mr Blair, whose courtship of Rupert Murdoch's tabloid flagship has been a crucial element of his political strategy, avoided picking a fight with the Sun as he might have done with other newspapers which called him potentially "the most dangerous man in Britain". And he managed to refrain from sounding as enthusiastic about the euro

as he did 10 days ago at the EU's Cardiff summit.

That was enough last night for the Sun to put itself on the back for what it sees as a public-spirited reopening of the domestic debate on the pros and cons of Britain joining the 11 EU states which are committed to the euro from January 1 next year.

Downing Street insiders dismissed the paper's three-page restatement of its trenchantly anti-single currency views as a simple case of a newspaper trying to generate publicity and shift extra copies.

Inside the paper's Wapping HQ it was being said that the Sun's new editor, David Yelland, had merely decided to restate the paper's position after weeks of speculation that, at Mr Murdoch's behest, it might be preparing the ground for another major U-turn like the one which led it to back New Labour at the election.

"Newspapers are entitled to their view, but we govern in the national interest," Mr Blair told MPs at Question Time. Faced from all sides, he sought to position Labour

in the pragmatic midstream, with the Liberal Democrats committed to the euro at any cost and the Tories refusing to join "no matter what the economic circumstances".

A Downing Street spokesman insisted that Mr Blair's widely reported praise for the euro in Cardiff — as a force for stability and growth in a world of financial turbulence — did not reflect any change of view. The feeling persists, none the less, that the Prime Minister and his Chancellor want to take Britain in when circumstances give them the

opportunity to win the promised referendum, in 2001/2002. The Conservatives gleefully fell on the Sun's editorial statement as proof that they are back in tune with public opinion and the tabloid press.

Coincidentally or not, the new shadow chancellor, Francis Maude, made Europe the subject of his first major policy speech yesterday. He argued that true pragmatism was to wait and see if the euro "works in bad times as well as good and to draw on real experience," before deciding whether to join.

William Hague is trying to steer a course between his Europhile and deeply phobic wings by ruling it out for this and the next parliament.

Mr Maude, a former merchant banker, rejected assertions that there will be greater exchange rate stability inside the system, that the money saved by not having to exchange currencies will exceed the costs of changing to the euro, and even that it would produce lower interest rates for home owners and industry. Germany's long term rates were already higher

than Britain's, he said. Mr Maude also raised the bogey of EU tax harmonisation, which for low-tax Britain "can only mean one thing, tax rises," he said, arguing that Britain's economic cycle moved in step with that of the United States rather than France or Germany.

"In a mysterious way that no one really understands, the English-speaking economies of the world tend to track each other," he said.

Hague Young page 8
Leader comment, page 9

Paper's ham-fisted Blair bashing a yobbish way to launch debate

Roy Greenslade
on the state of play between PM and the tabloid he won over

ON Monday Rupert Murdoch and Tony Blair sat next to each other at the funeral of Sir David English. There was the odd shared smile as they chatted afterwards. They appeared to be getting along just fine.

Yesterday the two appeared to be very distant indeed as Murdoch's Sun delivered an unexpected blow to the Prime Minister by suggesting that he might be "the most dangerous man in Britain".

In a front page leading article, Blair was castigated for being "determined to propel us into the single currency". As "a charming, persuasive politician" he has "decided to use his popularity to cajole, seduce and persuade the voters to back him". But the Sun will be a determined opponent to such a move.

No wonder politicians and journalists alike viewed this attack as proof of a breach between Blair and Murdoch. The paper that announced before the election "We back Tony Blair" has apparently turned on him. But that is too facile an analysis.



The Sun's front page yesterday and editor David Yelland



Right from the beginning of its conversion to New Labour in January 1997, the Sun has distanced itself from the party's pliant approach to the single European currency. It is known that Murdoch, the previous editor, Stuart Higgins, and the political editor, Trevor Kavanagh, are opposed to the euro, and the paper's comment columns, heavily laden with news stories and choice of features have reflected that.

The editor since June 8, David Yelland, obviously shares that viewpoint and is re-stating the paper's position. As he said yesterday: "We'll go on supporting Mr Blair, except over the euro." He suggested that his attack

on Blair was aimed at starting "a national debate on the most important issue facing the country". If we accept that at face value, then it was a ham-fisted effort and, most importantly, did not come across as the act of a friend. We know the Sun never knowingly indulges in sophistication, but did it really think it needed to bludgeon Blair in this fashion?

It was a yobbish way to open a debate. What it suggested was not a genuine split between Murdoch and Blair but the inexperience of an editor trying to put down his marker. Yelland said on BBC Radio 4's Today programme that it was "ridiculous" to imagine that Murdoch wrote

the headline, and that is undoubtedly the truth. It is likely, though, that he was formed before publication about the tone of the leader.

What he would not have grasped was the presentation, and it was this that was surely way over the top.

Sun let us put this matter in perspective. Blair is not going to need to decide on Britain's adoption of the euro during this Parliament. This ill-timed and ill-judged Sun front page, engineered by Blair's apparent enthusiasm for the euro at the Cardiff EU summit last week, is not going to stimulate a national debate in the foreseeable future.

It is another shot across the bows, a reminder to Blair that if he does decide to go all the way, he will be at odds with the Sun. I think it safe to say he knows that. The Sun and Blair have agreed to differ.

Stories of his converting Murdoch privately to his view have been writ of the dark. Both are waiting to see how the first wave works out. Both are pragmatists.

But if they take different lessons from the experiment, so be it. Blair is doubtless prepared for the battle, knowing that the campaign to influence a largely apathetic public will require him to overcome the Sun's antagonism, not to mention that of the Daily Mail and Daily Telegraph.

Bobbing and weaving is hallmark of PM's Euro rhetoric

WHEN Tony Blair stood for Parliament in 1983 he did so committed to phased withdrawal from what was then the European Economic Community, writes Michael White.

By 1987 Neil Kinnock was recruited to "working constructively with our EEC partners". John Smith was also an enthusiast.

All that suited Blair's gut European instincts. During the 1994 leadership contest, he conceded there were "potential benefits" to the euro, despite technical problems for Britain's very different economy. That remains his pragmatic position.

So, by January 1995 he was telling Brussels that Labour would play a full role in developing European Monetary Union (EMU). "For us the key

question is whether we can, through greater cooperation, achieve the degree of integration and convergence necessary for a single currency."

Significantly, from a man who had long favoured a referendum on entry — conceded by John Major early in 1997, that including "persuading the people of Europe that this is a step that is sensible and right to take".

Before the 1997 election Mr Blair played the Euro-sceptic card. If joining arose in the next Parliament "and I stress the if, just as our manifesto will be with the British people in a referendum".

After his landslide he repeated: "To ensure the single currency is successful, member states must continue to im-

plement reforms of product, capital and labour markets, and to promote employability and job creating entrepreneurship" — the Anglo-Saxon economic agenda he is promoting alongside Bill Clinton.

After Gordon Brown said Britain favoured entry in principle, in October 1997, Mr Blair told a Dutch audience in January that "barring unforeseen circumstances, we want Britain to be in a position to take a decision... early in the next Parliament, should the economic conditions be met".

In March he declared Britain must "be proud of our diversity and let subsidiarity rule", warning: "We have an economic framework for the EU. We now need a political framework that is dramatically more relevant than the

present one." Bobbing and weaving is the hallmark of Mr Blair's Euro-rhetoric. His instincts are pragmatic, not ideological. Unlike the Sun — and most poll findings — he believes a single currency poses no threat to national independence. If it works, he wants to be part of it.

What alarmed the Sun were his remarks at the Cardiff summit 10 days: "There are two pillars of economic stability in this world of economic instability, the United States and the European Union." The single currency would lay "the foundations for the kind of long period of expansion that the US has just enjoyed... It marks a turning point for Europe." Aides denied any change, but Euro-sceptic alarm bells rang.

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French alarm at growth in social divide

Anger as Socialist rule sees rich get richer while poor get poorer

Paul Webster in Paris

A DRAMATIC rise in the fortunes of the rich and a growth in the numbers earning subsistence wages has increased tension within France's Socialist-led coalition government.

It has been revealed that since Lionel Jospin became prime minister a year ago this week the country's wealthiest woman, Liliane Bettencourt, has increased her assets by more than \$2 billion.

Other fortunes rose by as much as four times while the number of workers earning the minimum wage or less went up.

A cabinet decision yesterday to raise the monthly minimum wage by only \$10 to \$555 angered Communists, Greens and Socialist party leftwingers in the coalition.

But in celebrating the first year of leftwing government, Mr Jospin refused to give in to parliamentary pressure for heavier taxes on the rich.

The Communist newspaper, *L'Humanité*, said the \$10 rise was worth only two cents a month. Supported by other non-Socialists in the coalition, Communist MPs have demanded a 4 per cent rise.

Trade unions said workers could not understand why the increase was lower than the national economic growth rate and claimed that the government had given into blackmail by employers.

The brake on the minimum wage coincides with concerns, particularly among Communists, that Mr Jospin is rethinking economic policy to align it with British and American free-market models.

The coalition's left wing was surprised when the

prime minister said during a visit to President Bill Clinton in the United States last week that he had been mistaken about American methods of job creation based on flexibility and now considered the US model an effective policy.

A year of Socialist government has done little to improve the jobless rate of more than 3 million or to prevent more sinking into poverty.

The number of French people earning the minimum wage, known as *Smicardis*, has tripled since its introduction in 1988 to 2.2 million — 11 per cent of the workforce.

More than half of the 3.5 million workers on part-time or shared-job contracts earn far below this level.

The figures look even worse when compared with the impact of the stock exchange boom. The magazine *Challenges* yesterday published its annual list of personal fortunes which showed that many had doubled in 12 months, while one industrial family's assets had quadrupled.

The most reliable barometer of personal wealth, the assets of Ms Bettencourt, heiress to the L'Oréal cosmetics business, showed that she had gained an extra \$7 million each working day since last June, pushing up her wealth from \$2.4 billion to \$6.5 billion.

The biggest winners came from a wide range of industries including plastics, aerospaces and wine. The stock market boom has trebled the value of some shares since January.

"Contrary to common belief, recent leftwing government has always been favourable to the Bourgeoisie," a *Paris* broker said. "Mr Jospin used to be a economics professor and he has not forgotten the lessons of market forces."

'God's banker' to be exhumed

Philip Willian in Rome

A JUDGE has ordered the exhumation of the body of the Italian banker who was found hanging by the neck from scaffolding under Blackfriars Bridge in London.

Judge Ottavio Lupacchini ordered a new autopsy to establish whether Calvi took his own life or was murdered.

It is hoped that the examination, due at the end of September, will clarify whether or not Calvi was conscious at the time he was suspended from the scaffolding.

Five suspects are under investigation for the death of the man known as "God's banker" because of the close links between the Banco Ambrosiano, of which he was chairman, and the Vatican bank. The prosecutors allege, on the basis of testimony from former Mafia boss, that the head of Italy's largest private bank was killed because he had mismanaged funds entrusted to him by the *Casa Novara*.

Those indicted are Flavio Carboni, a Rome businessman who accompanied Mr Calvi to London, Pippo Calo, a Mafia boss accused of managing *Casa Novara's* investments in Rome, Francesco Di Carlo, a Mafia boss living in England at the time of Calvi's demise, and Ernesto Ditali.

levi, a member of a Rome underworld gang with links to Italian politicians and the secret services.

Carlo Calvi, the banker's son, said the autopsy was the prosecutor's request by Mr Carboni for a limited examination of the body, which Mr Carboni presumably believed would help to prove that the banker had committed suicide.

According to the prosecution, Mr Carboni and Mr Calo contacted Mr Di Carlo in London and asked him to organise the murder. Mr Di Carlo claims that the Mafia boss failed to get hold of him and assigned the killing instead to members of the Neapolitan Camorra.

Mr Calvi insisted he was more interested in the business and political interests that opposed his father's rescue plan for the troubled Banco Ambrosiano. He said he believed his father's last moves were monitored by a Rome lawyer and close associate of the former prime minister Giulio Andreotti.

"My father was working on a merger between the Banco Ambrosiano and the financial company Italmobiliare, which would have altered the entire equilibrium of Catholic finance in Italy. My father told us that Andreotti was opposed to this and he was in fear for his life because of that opposition."



A Kosovo Liberation Army fighter crosses an Albanian stream on his way to the embattled province. PHOTOGRAPH BY AP/WIDEWORLD

Albanian guerrillas switch off the power of strategic Serbian mine

Jonathan Steele in Ade sees a commando raid on coal supplies

A Lbanian gunmen of the Kosovo Liberation Army brought the Serbian province's largest coal mine to a halt yesterday, after kidnapping nine Serb workers and causing panic among the rest of the 1,700 staff.

Less than 10 miles from Kosovo's capital, Pristina, the opencast mine fires a 1,129-megawatt power station which feeds into the Serbian national grid and supplies Macedonia and Greece. It has only a few days of coal in reserve, local Serb officials said.

The closure, the biggest blow to the Serbian economy since the guerrillas' seizure of the mine, was the result of a single roadblock behind a haystack at a farmhouse beside the ancient conveyor belts which take brown coal from the mine.

While most of the KLA's gunmen are peasants, the operation to shut the Belasica pit was led by a team sent from the region of Drenica.

They began by capturing nine Serb workers on Monday morning as they drove into the roadblock in three separate vehicles.

Word of the kidnapping spread, and although some workers kept the mine going on Tuesday, work stopped yesterday.

"Of course the workers are not going. Nobody will," the director of the Serbian government's Information Secretariat in Pristina, Bosko Drobnjak, said.

The adjacent Dobro Selo mine remained in Serb hands yesterday, watched by a few blue-uniformed guards standing at the entrance. Its conveyor belts hung silent and empty on their pulleys.

Less than 200 yards away KLA gunmen held the roadblock where the kidnapped Serbs had been released. "The Serbs make all kinds of propaganda. I'm sure they've gone home to their families," he said. But in the village of Milo-

sevo, near the power station, there was no sign of celebrations at the home of Zoran Adzandic, one of the kidnapped Serbs. His relatives and some neighbours sat glumly on the porch as though attending a wake.

"Zoran was with a neighbour and two Albanians when they were stopped," his brother Slobodan said. "One of the Albanians said to the terrorists, 'Take the car but let them go'. He was slapped around a bit, but let go. He came back to Dobro Selo and sounded the alarm."

Slobodan Adzandic said he and the relatives of the other kidnapped men had contacted the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United States Information Service in the hope of exerting pressure for their release.

At the town hall in Obilic, the regional centre for an area whose population is 45 per cent Serb and 55 per cent Albanian, the mayor, Zoran Milosevic, said: "It wasn't a big group of terrorists. They're trying to provoke a fight. The Serbs aren't scared because the terrorists are no real military formation."

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A former miner, sacked as an excavator-operator in 1990 when most skilled Albanians were purged from Kosovo's state-owned firms, said the kidnapped Serbs had been released.

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Sales flat as German youth turn off beer

Dennis Staunton in Berlin

GERMANY'S image as the land of lederhosen, oompah hands and foaming steins of beer is in danger as youngsters put down their Pils in favour of alcopops and lemonade.

Beer consumption has fallen 10 per cent since 1990 and hundreds of breweries could close before the end of the century, according to a report published yesterday.

More awareness about the dangers of alcohol abuse and a lowering of the drink-drive limit are responsible for part of the fall in sales.

But analysts from MSM Management Consulting in Wiesbaden found that the biggest threat facing beer is its turn-off for young Germans.

"Beer is seen as old-fashioned, high in calories, neither fresh nor healthy. Young people want something light and sporty but beer doesn't seem to be either," said Michael Mueller, one of the authors of the report.

Germany are still the leading beer drinkers in western Europe, downing 131 litres per head in 1997 compared with 101 litres in Britain and only 86 litres in the abstemious Netherlands.

There are 1,299 breweries in Germany, many of which brew local brands for a tiny geographical area, but the six biggest brewers command two-thirds of the market.

Fierce competition and a price war that has reduced the cost of a can of beer to the equivalent of 50p could bankrupt

about 250 small breweries within two years.

Mr Mueller said: "The problem is that they don't have any idea how to market themselves... Most of the advertising they do produce is a complete waste of money because nobody can tell the difference between one brand and another."

The brewers are spending more on advertising this year but most advertisements are aimed at traditional beer drinkers — male, middle-aged, and unadventurous.



NATO secretary-general Javier Solana, right, meets Kosovo leader Ibrahim Rugova in Brussels yesterday.

Nato sheaths sword in Kosovo

Ian Black in London and Jonathan Steele in Pristina

NATO has given its strongest signal yet that it will not back independence for the Albanian majority in Kosovo, insisting yesterday that a political solution must be found to end the bloodshed in the Serbian province.

The Nato secretary-general, Javier Solana, told Ibrahim Rugova, the leader of the Democratic League of Kosovo, that he should immediately resume talks on autonomy with President Slobodan Milosevic.

He spoke as Nato governments, increasingly anxious about the progress being made by the Kosovo Liberation Army, planned a new round of crisis meetings to consider their next move.

The KLA has seized control of more than 30 per cent of Kosovo and is constantly threatening to extend its activities.

The Russian foreign minister, Yevgeny Primakov, said before meeting the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, last night: "We are convinced the situation can be stabilised without the use of force."

Mr Solana said Nato planes carried out a sabotage exercise on Kosovo's borders, Russia, sensitive to Yugoslavia's territorial integrity and acutely aware of the parallel with Chechnya, has refused to back the UN Security Council resolution needed for Nato to take further action.

As the West increases its pressure on them to tone down their demands for independence, the political leaders of Kosovo's Albanians are angry with the Russians for taking Mr Milosevic's side.

"The discussion wasn't pleasant at all," the co-ordinator of their negotiating team, Fehmi Agani, said when asked yesterday about their two meetings in Pristina this

week with the Russian deputy prime minister Nikolai Annanov.

"On the first evening he mentioned autonomy within Serbia but with some federal links. We said we had been an equal part of the Yugoslav Federation when Albanians were only 8 per cent of the population. We said: How can you ask us to accept less now, when we are 20 per cent?"

The next day the Russian minister "put his emphasis on criticising us for not criticising terrorism". The Albanians concluded that the Russians were "clearly on the Serb side".

The Albanians could not resume negotiations until the Serbs withdrew and the refugees could go home, the Kosovo leaders insisted.

Mr Solana has been saying the same thing to Richard Holbrooke, the newly appointed US ambassador to the United Nations, who arranged the first encounter between Mr Rugova and Mr Milosevic.

Yesterday Mr Holbrooke toured Decani and other towns and villages heavily damaged in last month's Serb offensive. In Janik he had a brief encounter with KLA gunmen.

"I felt like I was going back into the rice paddies of the Mekong Delta and seeing the same tragic scenario playing itself out," he told reporters. "All I can say is we will give it our best shot."

Mr Holbrooke, who has told both sides that the conflict has reached a critical phase, is due to meet Mr Milosevic again today.

In Paris, President Jacques Chirac said maximum pressure must be put on Belgrade to grant autonomy to Kosovo and end the violence.

As Bosnia showed, only such an action can stop escalation into a war that would gradually threaten the stability of south-eastern Europe, and open the way to a fair and lasting political settlement," he said.

Despite Japan's eco Faded

HAVING been from the headlines and out of the news in Tokyo, Japan's eco image is fading. A recent poll of a global image of a country shows that Japan is seen as a country that is not environmentally friendly.

It is an image which, after a decade of campaigning, has been tarnished by the economic recession. Japan's eco image has been tarnished by the economic recession.

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Simon Bowers

HR Diary's **Pete Brains** and **welsh** are a high-ranking contender. **Dennis O'Connor** of the **Association of Chief Police Officers** revealed the latest theory about crime rates on **teatime 4's The World Tonight** earlier this week. Why, he was asked, did some rural areas have very low clear-up rates? "Well," he explained, "the rural areas have low clear-up rates because low crime rates are low crime rates. Simple enough. Does a low crime rate make the policeman's job easier? 'If you've got less offences you have less opportunities for detection,'" said Dennis, "and after you have secured reductions then you really are at the difficult end, as it were, of the crime rate. You've got to be easy people who fall into our hands, as it were." **Hummm**, as it were.

**Blair needn't be afraid of the bully.
Sooner or later he will call his bluff**

Unlike the Sun, and also the Tory Party, Mr Blair does not recoil from anxieties but, also unlike them, doesn't mind expressing full-hearted commitment to the European Union. He did so the other day, getting the Sun's goat, at the European Parliament. He's likewise aware of the political and economic consequences of being outside. Representing EMU as a nightmare, peopled by crooks and/or lunatics, may satisfy Murdoch and his lackeys, and gratify incorrigible sceptics, but it's hardly an adequate narrative to describe the national interest, especially when no alternative is proposed to Britain's having a central role in the

SECOND, a major argument against EMU is that it gives too much power to bankers, yet those who are in charge of the political reform they would support to change this. They simply disengage from that debate. Do they want more Europe-wide democracy? Of course not. Yet they do not propose any mechanism about sterling's entry. How, then, will they address the political problem? At this point, they offer not only dishonesty but confusion. The visceral language of the last few weeks, as spoken by William Hague at the Conservative conference, implies that EMU can never be congruent with British independence.

But then, at some time, when the economic facts are clear, we're going to have to understand the ditch could be vacated.

Nobody disputes that EMU

The British press, like the Tory party, is already preparing to sound like the voice of the deluded past. Soon the deluded past will imply that the fastest way to get away from the shackles of firm government is to face with the reality of what ERMU is doing to the neighbouring economies, and the opportunities which absence will cost the British. Mr Blair and his colleagues will be asked to instruct the public in what they should do. They will be starting late. There may yet be a lack of convergence between their political timetable and an economic cycle they can't control. But the facts will force them in only one direction. The Smeaton Commission is therefore not a hindrance. On the contrary, it goads the Government to action. This does require Mr Blair to sever his bonds of thralldom. But he's soon unmistakably on notice that he'll have to do so. If he's not, it's because he's about Europe. Too busy to invite a meeting with its match.

Private parts

NICE for once to have Gordon Brown and Rishi Sunak on the same side. "There is nothing surprising," Tawney wrote, "in the view that, as circumstances change, a reclassification of the spheres of private and public undertakings is periodically required. It is not surprising that a case may have been necessary for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be Master Worker and War Man of the Royal Mint — so that he could heed anyone who counterfeited groats. But in these days nobody complains about private enterprise counterfeiting the pound sterling notes. It is sentiment, not socialism, that argues against low denomination coins being introduced in the same way.

fact that 100 major monopolies did not exist. Now it is taken for granted that private enterprise — market capitalism — is the best way of running everything. Sometimes it is. Sometimes it is not.

Market capitalism is insidious. It does not contain the seeds of its destruction, but takes root as easily as a sycamore and spreads as quickly as Russian Vine. It now flourishes, without question or limit.

Market capitalism, 20 years ago, it would have been regarded as absurdly inappropriate. Convicted offenders are now taken from court to prison under the supervision of private sector employees and, once behind bars, are often in the custodial care of a limited company.

Why, we will soon be asked, should not the police who catch and convict the wrongdoers be similarly subject to the disciplines of competition? Fantastic? So was the idea of private prisons not so long ago.

In some prosperous American suburbs, private companies already "top-up" the provision of services that come from state and municipal police. The idea of "topping up" public provision with private investment is now part of our political culture. It is the way in which we will soon be paying for the cost of state pension, and the idea behind the proposal that legal aid should, in many cases, be replaced by individual insurance. Private enterprise is now edging on to run schools in New York City. The idea is already clear: to shift the rubbish from our streets, provide domiciliary geriatric care and feed the children from low income families who receive free school meals.

It may be that private enterprise will deliver the services more efficiently than the public sector — though, very

Private enterprise feeds the children who receive free school meals

often, reduced costs are the result of both declassifying services for the consumers and reduced wages for the employees. But the problem—at least for me—is that the forward march to private enterprise goes on without any serious politician arguing its merits. Unemployment is the bald assertion that something is going to be moved out of the public sector. Occasionally we are told that it will promote greater efficiency—though that contention is always a little shaky. The loss of faith rather than the results of detailed economic analysis. Perhaps air traffic will be controlled more safely after an injection of private capital. Perhaps the Post Office would deliver mail better if it were a company quoted on the Stock Exchange. I just wish that somebody would start to argue the case, rather than announcing the decision without any discussion.

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Quinn come early?
Peter Bradshaw.
Liverpool.

ZIEGFELD Follies. seen
twice by mistake.
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Jaden.

Mark Steel can say what he likes about her: she's dead and she can't complain. But I'm alive and he should beware of writing about me

Diana and the sexists

YESTERDAY, Gordon Brown announced Britain's latest plans to commemorate Princess Diana. But Guardian columnist Mark Steel had already told us something important: that women in general and feminism in particular are *not* important, that they have nothing important to tell us about the world.

republicanism, is plainly dead — nay, a class traitor. So we're not allowed to disagree about Diana, her pain and her power, nor to ruminate about republican implications of her wedding to — about Charles and his cold, cruel, complicit family.

Steel stands in a long and lamentable tradition of sexist socialism which suffers from short memory. Unlike the Radicals of 1830, who were not a party, but a liberal human multitudes that there was a connection between King George IV's oppression of the queen and his oppression of the people, between sexual politics and constitutional reform, modern leftists understand those connections only in those terms. The nation stirred as many of the people last September.

No doubt they'd diagnose the people, like me, as suffering from the flaw of "false consciousness" that

so dismays Trotskyists and Stalinists alike. It's such a shame, the people are always the problem.

By saying that Diana's revelations about the royal family are a load of rubbish, these leftists, who are uncontaminated by the people, become mute monarchists.

Mark Steel belongs to a superior sect of socialists who take the Nicholas Soames line on Diana, who believe that she was, as fellow columnist Joan Smith put it, silly "spoiled and unstable".

What is it that these people can't bear? That a woman made us think about the royal family? That an aristocratic woman did what none of the rest of us with much better class credentials have done: scare the royal family?

Mark Steel can, of course, say what he likes about Diana. She's dead and she can't complain. But I'm

live and be should beware of writing about me. He writes that I'm a treacherous feminist who once cared about class but who now careethers about "lifestyles" by day and chaters "at dinner" by night. He says I've "missed" an "exciting period in the battle for women's liberation". He says that while I and feminists like me were mesmerised by the idolisation of a "modern Marie Antoinette" aka Princess Diana — and wasting time worrying about "republican politics" — he was missing the real thing: real men, the great movement of women for the local communities (Women Against Pit Closures) during the 1984-5 miners' strike which I'd madly magnified as "macbo politics". He must have missed my book, "The Greater Good", which he has revisited and its exploration of mining and men. He

must have missed its critique of George Orwell's upper class contempt for working class politics. He must have missed my Channel 4 documentary in 1984 on the miners' strike and women's movement in the coal communities. Sure, the

ainers' leaders made the fatal, macho mistake of deciding to dispense with democracy. Their cause was honorable though their conduct was doomed. But we must have missed me and my women's group which supported the

women's campaign in the coal communities) at the forefront lately organised by Women Against Pit Closures after the miners' defeat. Perhaps he wasn't there.

He must have missed my 1994 book, *Goliath*, on riots, working class communities, crime and justice, gender and terrorism. It's entitled to mislead. But what made him so blind? Maybe he didn't just make a mistake: maybe he meant to dismiss this work by denying it.

He wouldn't be the first man to adjudicate over which women are proper mothers or socialists, and he wouldn't be the first man to unpersuade a person because he felt challenged by their politics.

Beatrice Campbell's new book is
Diana, Princess Of Wales: How
Sexual Politics Shock The

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**The breeze
with Blair**
Murdoch has got

[illegible]

Letters to the Editor

[illegible]

His vote for equality and a
hairless Alan Shearer on
front of the Guardian. Did
James come early?
er Bradshaw,
erpool.

FIRST film ever (Letters.
 June 20). Bulldog Drum-
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 and Joan Bennett. It is so dire
 one becomes hypnotised
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'I tried hard to make the McLibel film into something we could transmit'
Anne Reeve, Letters

The break with Blair

Murdoch has gone too far

MOURNERS at the funeral of Sir David English earlier this week were treated to a singular sight. Behind the coffin of the former Editor of the Daily Mail as it was borne out of St Bride's Church in Fleet Street walked two men: Rupert Murdoch and Tony Blair. They looked deeply uncomfortable at this all too public juxtaposition. By the time the cortege had reached the street — and the waiting cameras — Mr Blair had managed to place several yards between himself and the chairman of News Corporation. It is not that the Prime Minister and the press baron do not get on: quite the opposite. Mr Blair has expended much energy on getting on the right side of Mr Murdoch — just as he did with Sir David. But such courtships are best played out in private, rather than before a hand-picked audience of journalists.

So it will have come as a rude shock to Mr Blair to find his face plastered all over the front page of Mr Murdoch's Sun yesterday, accompanied by the question: "Is THIS the most dangerous man in Britain?" The paper devoted three pages to a searing attack on his purported views on the single currency, with a warning that the paper would "fight, fight, fight" him over any softening on his attitude towards the single currency. Its editorial noted imperiously that when it decided to back Blair at the last election "we did not give him a blank cheque."

What led the Sun to this pitch of bullying hysteria is anyone's guess. Some have sug-

gested that its new editor wished to make his mark. But the notion that any editor of the Sun would launch such an attack on a prime minister without the Boss's approval is as far-fetched as David Beckham deciding to join his team mates on the pitch without the prior permission of Glenn Hoddle. We may be sure that Mr Murdoch sanctioned the assault, if not its clumsy execution. Others have suggested that it was a piece of crude commercial opportunism by the Sun in response to the revival of the Mirror, which has distanced itself from the Government. But this would hardly explain the ferocity of the attack, nor the way in which it was anticipated the previous day in the Sun by Mr Murdoch's representative on earth, the mysterious Dr Irwin Steltzer.

There are two morals from the strange episode: one for Mr Murdoch and one for Mr Blair. The moral for Mr Murdoch is that, for the first time in his professional life, he is looking out of touch. It is too soon to say whether the appointment of David Yelland, a journalist who made his reputation in America writing about Wall Street, will prove to have been a misjudgement. But neither Mr Murdoch nor Mr Yelland can, on this evidence, claim to have a sure finger on the pulse of contemporary Britain. The mood is one of cautious, pragmatic suspicion about the euro rather than one that summons the mane of Winston Churchill while shrieking last-ditch resistance. Mr Yelland is too new to these shores and Mr Murdoch has been spending too much time in 747s. They have hit a false note with this concerted attempt to regain the Sun's old Gotcha glory days.

The moral for Mr Blair is to sup with a long spoon. It made pre-electoral sense to fly halfway around the globe at Mr Murdoch's bidding, just as Mr Blair was right, as Leader of the Opposition, to launch a charm

offensive upon Sir David English and Viscount Rothermere. But, as Prime Minister he cannot afford the suspicion that his views on a single currency — or anything else — are being tempered with a view to their reception in Wapping or Kensington High Street. His measured response to the Sun's little tantrum suggests that he has begun to take that message on board. If so he really could be dangerous: but to Mr Murdoch rather than Britain.

Ban landmines

Give Diana a proper memorial

AROUND the shrine swirls a sea of mawkishness, bad biography, political opportunism and quick ways to make money. (Hasn't Gordon Brown got better things to do than play the loyal munismatologist?) Yet there is a decent way of memorialising the Princess of Wales, and it's implementing the Ottawa Treaty prohibiting the use of landmines. It was her best work. As always the cameras popped, but thanks to them we are left with the compelling image of the Princess of Wales in Africa, her cause the elimination of a weapon capable of causing horrible civilian casualties.

A world-wide ban is feasible. The conditions of warfare can be regulated, the sale and transfer of weapons is not some necessity of history. The treaty has been signed by 126 countries including Britain, but ratified by only 20, excluding Britain. For the people's government to hold up the legislation to further a cause associated with the people's princess that the people also endorse is an uncharacteristic error.

Prodded yesterday by the MP for Knutsford, aka the man in the white suit, Defence Secretary George Robertson revised the

official line, that delay in British ratification of the treaty is due to pressure of parliamentary business. That's a welcome shift but it leaves a bad taste. Quite why, with a majority this size and the Prime Minister's stated determination to modernise the institutions of British government, the Blair Cabinet need be as timid is hard to see. Parliamentary timetables are creative endeavours, not forces of nature. Mr Robertson's objection — that it would be difficult for British soldiers to operate alongside forces from allied countries which had not ratified the treaty — is unconvincing. He means the United States and so begs the response that Britain can surely enjoy steady and close military relationships within Nato without having to endorse the American belief that the border between the two Koreas can be defended only by anti-personnel mines. Di coins and all the rest of the memorabilia will do no harm, even if they won't do much good. A landmine ban might save lives and shattered limbs. The Government knows its deadline — the anniversary of her death. For the Diana Treaty, it has plenty of time to find the time.

under a landscape architect with no tenant permitted to erect any structure without the prior approval of the planning authority including "design, materials, size, colour and location". If even allotments were not to be allowed their traditional element of anarchy — from improvised fences to makeshift sheds — what price democracy? But yesterday's report is different. It charts a fast-disappearing way of life not due to changing lifestyles but, ironically, because of inadequate protection from planning authorities.

Under the present law local councils can only dispose of allotments with the approval of the Environment Secretary. Yet the recent rate of loss — 50 sites a year — has continued unabated under John Prescott. The MPs rightly express alarm at the rate at which they are being swallowed up for development. Since the height of the allotment movement in the second world war's dig-for-victory campaign that produced 10 per cent of the nation's food — plot numbers have plummeted from 1.4 million to 300,000. The MPs rightly want stronger checks on sales to stem the loss.

The demand for allotments has not died away. Moreover, the traditional image of the allotment-holder — the retired man with a Spam sandwich in his satchel — is changing too: 35 per cent of cultivators are under 50 and six per cent under 35. The original purposes — to provide cheap food and allow industrial workers some fresh air — may have been superseded, but there are still plenty of city dwellers in search of "the good life". A recent survey of allotment-holders suggested half held managerial posts. There are 15,000 people on lists waiting for plots. Even planners now recognise that, although the quality and appearance of allotments vary, they remain, in the words of the Royal Town Planning Institute yesterday, "part of the rich fabric of urban life".

Carry on digging

Allotments must be preserved

YESTERDAY'S report from MPs on the threat to the nation's allotments is not the first such call under a Labour government. Three decades ago, a committee of inquiry into allotments during Harold Wilson's government produced 44 major recommendations, none of which was implemented. The earlier report may have deserved to be doomed with its misplaced faith in town-planners: all allotments were to be made subject to a programme of landscaping

Letters to the Editor

Biology and meteorology

AM the only one of your readers to be somewhat confused by Nicholas Winter's assertion that the Lord Almighty had meant men to commit sodomy with other men their bodies would have been built differently. (Vote on age of consent for gay sex, 23 June 2007.) Given that sodomy refers to penetrative anal intercourse with the penis, my partner and I repeatedly find that we have all the necessary equipment, suitably positioned for the purpose. In fact, it is difficult to see how Mr Winter would improve on the arrangement. In the interests of public education and enlightenment, I think you should ask him to describe in detail his suggested biological model for the new gay man. Preferably with diagrams.

Jonathan Smith, Brighton

Ms vote for equality and e-shredding Alan Shearer on the front of the Guardian. Did Christmas come early? Peter Bradshaw, Liverpool

WORST films ever (Letters, June 20): Bulldog Drummond with Ronald Coleman and Joan Bennett. It is so dire that one becomes hypnotised by its banality. In one scene, the negative film was assembled back to front — so the obligatory handkerchief in the top pocket is on the right, not the left. Les Jones, Wolverhampton

ZIEGFELD Polles, seen twice by mistake. Sigrid Rabiger, London

If proof were needed of the Guardian's shift of origin from Manchester to London it can be found in your weather forecast (June 23). "The much-awaited summer finally showed signs of arriving." It's still raining in Manchester. John Reade, Manchester

SHOULD water company bosses decide to reward themselves for averting drought this summer, would their bonuses be subject to a rainfall tax? Martin Brown, Coventry

Parties and democracy

EWAN MacAskill's analysis on party membership (Staff that envelope, June 23) evokes any discussion of the reason why mass membership has so declined. I recently concluded a study and found that, although there are analogies to be drawn with other European states there are differences in the UK which have contributed to the political party's demise. Firstly, the adversarial style of our system is seen as irrelevant to the "post-materialist" ideals of the late-20th century. Our electoral system is incapable of challenging the status quo unless there is a massive tactical swing, as in 1987. Furthermore, centralisation has removed democratic control from local communities; individuals have turned instead to pressure groups.

Membership of special-interest groups has soared. Take the environmental groups. Friends of the Earth, at over 100,000; Greenpeace and the World Wide Fund for Nature, each at over 215,000. Yet the Green Party is hovering at around 4,500.

Ewan MacAskill argues that in the computer age active membership may be unnecessary. But participation by members gives legitimacy to democracy. Lobby groups are not subject to the democratic process. Thus the demise of the party represents the decline of democracy.

Judy Maciejowska, Twickenham, Middx

At the last meeting I attended, I volunteered to distribute leaflets in my area — including my home. Two weeks later I bumped into a long-standing Labour member who announced that "they" had decided it would be "easier" if another person distributed leaflets. So much for the rules.

That was in July 1997. I have not received a leaflet since. A Manoharan, London

WHEN I cut my Labour Party card last year and sent it to the local party secretary in disgust, I didn't think for one moment that I would be setting a trend.

My disgust was due to the spoiling tactics of the Shephway Labour Party, who didn't have a chance in hell of winning but, by splitting the vote, allowed Michael Howard back in!

Can I claim to be the first

Labour Party member in the country to have resigned as soon as Labour won the 1997 election? Dennis Franklin, Falkstone

IT is no surprise that Labour Party membership is declining. Before the election, I was flooded with information and appeals. Since then, silence. Loss of interest in the members, and they'll lose interest in you. Peter Burns, Shipton under Wychood, Oxon

HUGO Young may be right in his assessment of the fall in Labour Party membership shows the frivolity of 1997 allegiances. Many predicted that new recruits would disappear like "snow off a dyke" when the going got tough. But I suspect analysis would also reveal a loss of long-standing supporters. For some of us there never was a honeymoon.

Tony Sabine, Edinburgh

IT really does sum up British politics when a Tory Temple Morris is welcomed into the Labour Party and real Labour members are threatening legal action over the selection process in Scotland.

It proves Tony Blair's "new" Labour is just rebranded Conservatism. Charter 88, where are you now. Male Whitehead, Hale, Cheshire

split their brief acquaintance in the Congo, he refused to support him.

The reasons appear to be complex, related to his insecurity in the face of wartime xenophobia — he was frequently suspected of being a spy, his dislike for terrorism, his fear of the powerful homophobia of the time, and his Polish hatred of Germany, which he accused of trying to spill Irish blood in funerals.

He must also have realised that support for Casement from a foreign author with the name of Korzenkowski, accused of writing immoral books and widely though incorrectly believed to be a Jew, would hardly have helped his cause.

Roger Tennant, Lutterworth, Leics

When Conrad met Casement

KEVIN Power (Letters, June 22) is not entirely right in challenging Jim McInerney's view of the genesis of Heart of Darkness (Letters, June 17). His account, while broadly correct, does not do full justice to the meeting of Joseph Conrad and Roger Casement near Boma, at the mouth of the Congo. Conrad's contemporary biographer, Ford Madox Ford, vividly describes a poisoned, delirious Conrad on the fringe of the bush on the west coast of Africa, sucking some life-saving sustenance from a tin of condensed milk when he sees: "... between the setin sea and the steaming trees. A man, with sunlight on his face

Tap tappit

RE wheeltappers (Letters, June 23), older readers may recall The Wheeltapper's Song by Clifford Saylor and Wolsey Charles, published in 1923.

I works on the railway, a tapper I be. You might all be dead if it wasn't for me. I tramps down the train when the wheels be at rest. My hammer you'll hear as I pass them to test!

I sparks them! I clanks them! Topplap, tap tappat! Each wheel hollers out when it's whacked. For wheels be like women, some good and some true. And some be deceitful and cracks! Splig! Liverpool

YOU can watch wheeltappers at work at stations all over Russia just as Tolstoy described them in Anna Karenina. As they walk the length of the trains, locals with home-baked produce scramble under the trains as a short cut to customers on the far side. Karen Hewitt, Oxford



Why McLibel film wasn't shown

IN response to Franny Armstrong's article about her McLibel film (Screen, June 19), a few points to set the record straight.

Heart of the Matter did not commission this film, but was approached very late in the day by Ms Armstrong after her attempts with other broadcasters had failed.

I tried hard to turn the film into something the BBC could transmit. But so many problems remained to do with copyright and covert recording — rather than simply libel issues — that it proved impossible to broadcast.

As for the allegation that I prevaricated over a contract, her description of events is just not true. Perhaps it was more useful for Ms Armstrong to say that the film couldn't be run by mainstream broadcasters than to make a film which met the legal and editorial standards they require.

The result was that the defendants' story was never told in detail on British television. I think that as their producer Franny Armstrong, rather than the broadcaster, bears responsibility.

Anne Reeve, Editor, Heart of the Matter.

Glastonbury's bankers got what they were asking for

AS someone who has been co-ordinating information at the Glastonbury Festival since the early 1980s, it is sad to see your front-page piece deriding the provision of a cash machine on the site.

We all make use of banks and expect access to them in almost every situation. Glastonbury is no exception, but the demand has come from the festival-goers, partly to avoid being a victim of crime. The Guardian itself is involved in providing an easier passage through the festival, and now NetWest and BT. We made approaches to more ethical banks, but none would risk being there. The provision NetWest offered was popular last year, so they are building on it.

It is no exaggeration to say that Glastonbury is the only festival that has any credibility in its ethical stance. Huge amounts of money have been given away over the years, first to CND, then Greenpeace, WaterAid and Oxfam as well as numerous smaller organisations. The festival is principally run for the good cause, and is not called Worthy Farm for nothing. Stephen Abrahall, Somerset

AS an Archdruid unable to get a ticket for Stonehenge on a solstice this year, I would like to supplement your report on the ceremony.

There were numerous pilgrims who were not among the 100 admitted by English Heritage. I was among the Druids who celebrated the solstice outside the official group. Others, such as King Arthur Pendragon, deliberately chose to stand with the pilgrims despite an exclusion order. I walked to an adjacent field and with 25 others performed a simple ceremonial Gorsedd. Afterwards we moved on, at the request of the police. Mog-Or Kreh Dragnurider, Scaynes Hill, W Sussex

Don't ask how much ask how little

Men (non-smokers) £100,000 guaranteed cover 25 year term	
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Eagle Star	£11.17
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Direct Line	£9.89
Virgin Direct	£10.35
Marks & Spencer	£10.45
Age 35+	
Eagle Star	£11.14
Direct Line	£12.82
Virgin Direct	£13.33
Marks & Spencer	£15.75

Hazlitt, Ellyot and Pliny lead literary attack on football

PLINY va change (Letters, June 19): William Hazlitt made an implicit condemnation of English soccer hooligans in France, nearly 200 years ago in his essay *Manners Make the Man*.

"All manners make the Englishman... who alone (amongst Europeans) seems to delight in taking and giving offence... it is the rule, the order of the day and night with them; it is their mode of being, a national craving which they cannot do without; if you question it, they... knock you down... take them out of a quarrel or a grievance, and they are like fish out of water."

"It has been pleaded in ex-

tenation of the brutality and coarseness of the English, that it is owing to the habit of drunkenness which prevails amongst them; but this habit is itself owing to the fermentation of their spirits... and is encouraged as an additional stimulus to run-a-muck at decency and good manners, and allow an unbridled license [sic] to an abusive tongue."

David Owens, St Didier, France

IN Boko Named The Governor (S31), Sir Thomas Ellyot wrote: "Football is nothing but beastly fury and extreme violence, whereof proceedeth hurte, and consequently ran-

cour and malice do remayne with them that be wounded, wherefore it is to be put in perpetual silence".

James Hogan, London

THE Younger Pliny said it all in about 80AD in his letters: "The races were on, a type of spectacle which has never had the slightest attraction for me... So it surprises me all the more that so many thousands of adult men should have such a childish passion for watching galloping horses and drivers standing in chariots, over and over again... In fact it is the racing colours they really support and care about,

and if the colours were to be exchanged in mid-course during a race, they would transfer their favour and enthusiasm and rapidly desert the famous drivers and horses whose name they shout as they recognise them from afar. Such is the popularity and importance of the races that even the most serious individuals."

A I Sharp, Canterbury

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Maureen O'Sullivan

A nice girl in the jungle

SHE was a nice, convent-educated Catholic girl, and yet she will always be remembered in the eyes of filmgoers as a scantily-clad woman living in sin with a near-naked animalistic hunk of a man. Maureen O'Sullivan, who has died aged 87, played Jane to Johnny Weissmuller's Tarzan in six of the best of the many films based on the life of Edgar Rice Burroughs' jungle hero.

No plain Jane she, the shapely, dark-haired, dimpled O'Sullivan was barely 21 when she landed the role opposite the beautifully-chiselled 27-year-old Olympic swimming champion Weissmuller in *Tarzan Finds A Son* (1939). After Tarzan has literally swept the English explorer's daughter off her feet and through the jungle, Jane spends the night in his tree-house alone with him and Cheeta, his pet chimp. At the end of the picture, she decides not to return to civilisation, but stay with her muscular nature boy.

The relationship developed into a sexy and sparky one through *Tarzan And His Mate* (1934), *Tarzan Escapes* (1936), *Tarzan Finds A Son* (1939), *Tarzan's Secret Treasure* (1941), to *Tarzan's New York Adventure* (1942), although the puritanical Production Code gradually insisted the couple covered themselves more. In

the tradition of "Play it again, Sam" and "Come with me to the Casbah", the line "Me Tarzan, you Jane" was never actually spoken on screen. The couple's introductory conversation merely consists of "Tarzan-Jane." "Jane-Tarzan."

Although the films were made on the MGM backlot, O'Sullivan remembered: "I was never more consistently sick and miserable in all my life. I was never without an ache or a pain. I was never

Bennett, younger sister of Greer Garson's Elizabeth in *Pride and Prejudice* (1940). She was also in *Anna Karenina* (1935) as the woman who loses her lover to Greta Garbo's Anna.

Maureen O'Sullivan was born in County Roscommon in Ireland, and was educated at the Convent of the Sacred Heart at Roehampton, London, where she was a schoolmate of Vivien Leigh, with whom she was later to star in *A Yank At Oxford* (1938).

Woody Allen didn't endear himself to his mother-in-law by deciding that she couldn't play a character described as 'a boozy old flirt with a filthy mouth'

without a bite from one of those monkeys. I always had the same average — one fresh bite, one about half-healed, and one scar." While Weissmuller went on to make six more Tarzan movies, O'Sullivan, who had a lovely, lilting voice, continued her parallel career as an MGM ingenue, mostly playing well-bred young English ladies such as Henrietta Barrett, younger sister of Norma Shearer's Elizabeth in *The Barretts of Wimpole Street* (1934), Dora, the sickly child-wife of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*

for Robert Taylor's affections. After attending finishing school in Paris, O'Sullivan was discovered in 1932 in a Dublin café by American director Frank Borzage, and offered a contract with Fox.

After her debut in Borzage's *Song Of My Heart* (1930), she made a few further films at the studio including *A Connecticut Yankee* (1931), starring Will Rogers, in which she played Princess Allsande. Among her other non-Tarzan pictures at MGM was a film version of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*

(1932), in which she was touching as a woman afraid to marry a man with madness in the family: *The Thin Man* (1934), where she plays Nick and Nora Charles to find her missing father; and *A Day at the Races* (1937), providing the romantic interest that interrupted the crazy antics of the Marx Brothers.

In 1942, O'Sullivan retired from the screen to raise her growing family of seven children by the writer-director John Farrow, whom she met and married in 1936 when he was writing the screenplay of *Tarzan Escapes*. Her third child, the actress Mia Farrow, recalled her as "a terrific mother, full of fairy tales, with a soft voice and a soothing manner. She wasn't that involved in the more physical aspects, such as feeding us and dressing us. And we lived in a separate part of the house and always had a couple of nannies. But the time I shared with my mother was of the top quality. She was a mystical figure, and I sort of romanticised her."

O'Sullivan returned to the screen in brief roles in *The Big Clock* (1946) and *Where Danger Lies* (1950), two excellent thrillers directed by her husband, a Catholic convert, who wrote books on Sir Thomas More and the papacy. (He died in 1963, O'Sullivan only remarrying 20 years later.)

Among O'Sullivan's few films over the years were *Bonzo Goes To College* (1962), again playing with a chimp; and a fine Western, *The Tall T* (1957), in which she was Randolph Scott's supportive wife. She also had a long run on Broadway in *Now Too Late*, playing the middle-aged mother of a married daughter who discovers she's going to have another baby. (O'Sullivan repeated the role in the forgettable 1965 version of the play.)

In 1967, she was cast by Woody Allen to play Mia Farrow's retired actress mother in *Hannah and Her Sisters*, which was shot in the large Central Park West apartment which Mia had shared with her mother. A year later, Allen cast her as Mia's mother in *September*, but after shooting it, he decided that she was unable to play a character described as "a boozy old flirt with a filthy mouth", and reshot it with Elaine Stritch.

This did not endear him to his mother-in-law, and when the *Soon-Yi* scandal hit the headlines, she called Allen a "desperate and evil man" leading public support to her daughter.

Ronald Bergen

Maureen O'Sullivan, actress, born May 17, 1911, died June 22, 1998



You Jane... Maureen O'Sullivan and Johnny Weissmuller in *Tarzan Finds A Son* (1939)

Letter

JAP Dutton writes: In 1957, when Andy Capp was born, I had just left (West) Hartlepool for the world of work; my childhood was 15 years later than Reg Smythe's. Your obituary (*June 19*) is a little severe in calling it "a grimy run-down industrial conurbation." When I brought my fiancé for a visit in 1960, he agreed that there were shabby parts. But he was surprised at the extent of what he called the middle-class area, the width of many streets, the fine public parks and the many very big and well-kept houses. "Who lives in all those houses?" he asked, adding that in his birthplace, Chester, only the rich could afford to live in houses like those. I told him that houses were much cheaper in Hartlepool than in Chester and that the big houses were built between about 1880 and 1914, when the town prospered on shipbuilding and seaborne trade. I'm glad Smythe didn't shun his home town as so many provincials do. I should have liked to live in Hartlepool myself, but it has never been possible for me to go back.

By the way, according to Dixon & Mithusius' book *Victorian Architecture*, it possessed Britain's first completely steel-framed building, a department store erected in 1896. I believe that this building has now been demolished.

Cressida Ridley

Picking up the pieces in ancient Greece

THE high point of the research carried out by the archaeologist Cressida Ridley, who has died aged 81, was the excavation she directed in 1971-73, in collaboration with Dr Katerina Romaniopoulou of the Greek Archaeological Service, at the important neolithic settlement of Servia in Macedonia. This produced a long sequence of human occupation and some of the best early wooden architecture known in Greece.

The study of the finds took many years, but she had the devoted support of Ken and Diana Wardle. In the last days before going into hospital, she read and approved the text of the final volume of the final report, *Servia: A Rescue Operation*.

Cressida Ridley was an authority on the neolithic archaeology of northern Greece and surrounding areas. From 1962 to 1983, she was an indispensable member of British and Greek field projects, of all periods.

She was born into the heart of the Liberal enlightenment, but she did not receive any formal higher education until she was 44, when she enrolled to read for a diploma at Lon-



An English summer... Cressida Ridley at a cricket match with Siegfried Sassoon and a young family friend in 1954

don's Institute of Archaeology. Her first dig in Greece was on the Islet of Salagos, in the Aegean, under John Evans, her mentor at the Institute, and the young Colin Renfrew (now Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn).

Ridley had the sharpest of intellects, a deep curiosity about music, literature and nature, and an emphatic way of delivering opinions — qualities honed by talk and argument with her friends and family. Here lay the education of her childhood, apart from several seasons of travel on the continent, especially to Austria.

Her family could not have been more Liberal. As a child of Sir Maurice and Lady Violet Bonham Carter, she was the granddaughter of the sometime prime minister

Herbert Henry Asquith, while the Liberal leader Jo Grimond married her sister Laura in 1938. "It seemed to me there was a gracious stability about this family which made me long to be accepted by all its members," Philip Toynbee wrote in *Friends Apart* (1964), his memoir of Esmond Romilly, first husband of Jessica Mitford, and Jasper Ridley, whom Cressida married in 1939. She trained as a nurse during the war, working at London's Royal Free Hospital, and also worked for a short time with the Psychological Warfare Unit. Both Esmond Romilly and her husband Jasper were killed in the war. Ridley while escaping from a prison camp in Italy in 1943, fired by the news of the successful escape of Cressida's brother, Mark Bonham Carter.

A bleak time began for Cressida, which had a huge impact on her life. In 1945 she settled in Stockton, Wiltshire. She suffered a lot but came through as a person of deep and imaginative generosity. Although famous for her apparently condemnatory one-liners on such birds as the eagle eye at spotting absurdity and the discrepancies be-

tween what people profess and what they do, she was never unkind, one came to realise. She knew too much of the changing fabric of life ever to think on these lines.

Volunteering for digs in Wiltshire in the 1950s led to her love of archaeology. At the Institute, she specialised in European prehistory. Thereafter, in 1965, she went out to the British School at Athens — the United Kingdom's eccentric, lovable and distinguished research institution in Greece, housed in a late Victorian villa in a large garden in the centre of the city — holding an award from the school for long-term research in the Greek neolithic.

Many years followed of spreading sherds in museum storerooms and studying sites. She also gave generous time to helping others, as a subordinate, on their excavations throughout Greece. While the first to volunteer for chores her greatest contribution in dig directors was her skill as a trench supervisor at the intellectual and artistic challenge of sorting straight through a three-dimensional crossword puzzle with many clues missing.

Her famous work in this capacity was the deep sounding at Lefkandi in Euboea, an eight-metre deep trench running through hundreds of layers of human use from the third millennium to 700 BC. It needed exceptional pertinacity, artistry and feeling for the evidence — which was primarily earth. After this sounding, she seemed so willing to tackle others that an American friend of the School remarked: "I can never visit a British dig without finding Cressida Ridley at the bottom of the deepest hole."

Of her plucky judgments, one treasure comes from the time when she was working on my dig at Myrtos-Pyrgos in south Crete. We were about to have a party and, as a riposte to the Cretan dancing, were practising eightsome reels on the beach. One member would not join in. "That's the trouble with Marxists," said Ridley. "They never know how to enjoy themselves."

She is survived by her son Sir Adam Ridley.

Gerald Cadogan

Helen Cressida Ridley, archaeologist, born April 22, 1917; died June 10, 1998

Laxmikant

Scores of hits for Hindi films

WITH the death of Laxmikant, at the age of 61, the most popular composing partnership in Hindi film music history, Laxmikant-Pyarelal, which began in the early 1960s, has ended.

After three abortive projects the two composers had a major success with the 1963 hit *Parasmani*, whose sizzling number *Hansia hua naram chehra* is still popular. That film was followed by the award-winning *Dost*, about two poverty-stricken young friends. It was said to be partly modelled on Laxmikant's childhood in Pune. Once he had stolen 10 rupees for food and spent the change on a fourth opinion. Discovered playing it — badly — his shopkeeper employer had beaten him up.

Before he met Pyarelal, Laxmikant had worked as an actor, and as an assistant with film composers like Khemshankar Prakash, Gulam Mohammed and Kalyani-Anandji, with whom Laxmikant and Pyarelal were later to sustain an intense rivalry.

Pyarelal and Laxmikant met via the legendary Hindi playback songstress Lata Mangeshkar. Prati and it was Laxmikant who proved the more talented and imaginative. Their music was crucial to a number of hit films between the 1960s and the early 1990s, and they provided the scores for more than 300 films. A key virtue was that, unlike some composers of the 1960s and 1970s, they never resisted progressive measures and had an ability to swim with the tide which they retained into the 1990s, a decade in which they provided an island of excellence in the ocean of mediocrity that is 1990s Hindi film music.

Hareesh Pandya

Laxmikant, film composer, born May 4, 1937; died May 25, 1998

Birthdays

Dame Margaret Assef, former UN Under Secretary-General, 72; Peter Blake, painter, 66; Eddie Floyd, soul singer, 63; Cyril Fletcher, broadcaster, 85; Derek Foster, Labour MP, 61; Margaret Gray, socialist, 85; Sideline Laxmi, film director, 74; Vic Marks, cricketer and writer, 43; Roy Marsden, actor, 57; George Michael, singer, 35; Richard Morgan, warden, Ridley College, Oxford, 58; Carly Simon, singer and songwriter, 53; Patrick Tanaka, racing driver, 49; Robert Venturi, architect, 73; Moray Watson, actor, 70; Doreen Wells, former ballerina, 61; Peter Wright, cricket umpire, 68.

Memorial Services

GRAND, Steven, 60th. 3pm on Sat July 11. The Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, London W1. In celebration of his life.

Birthdays

POLLEY, Judith, happy birthday with love from family and friends. 8.15pm on Sat July 11. The Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, London W1. In celebration of her life.

A Country Diary

HIGHLANDS: Over 250 people contributed to the latest annual Highland Bird Report and the area covered includes the old counties of Inverness-shire, Ross-shire and Sutherland. The report includes the results of the continuing re-introduction programmes for red kite and sea eagle, and there are also accounts of the long-term work being carried out by the Highland Raptor Study Group on such birds as peregrine, golden eagle, merlin, kestrel and buzzard.

Eighty-three sites for black-throated divers were monitored by the RSPB and it was said to see that, yet again, eggers took their toll, as they did with ospreys. A particularly interesting part of the report is the review of the year, a monthly account of the more interesting records, as this gives an idea of what birds people can expect to see and where. These included a large group of warblers in January, although on the debit side many stonechats

and wrens were killed by the cold weather of that month. In April there were an impressive 75 great northern divers in Gruinard Bay on the west coast and a hoopoe at Glenelg. In May there were scattered records of turtle doves, classed as a scarce migrant this far north. A male snowy owl spent the summer — alone — on the Cairngorm Plateau while a pair of rare marsh harriers bred on the RSPB reserve at Insh Marshes — the

first proven breeding in the area covered by the report. Often the localities are just as exciting as the birds, such as Bannack Bay in north-west Sutherland, the island of Elig on the west coast or the Moray Firth on the east. A stimulating and revealing report that can be obtained by sending a cheque for £15.50 (inc. p&p) to Colin Crooke, c/o RSPB North Scotland Office, 51/52 House, Beechwood Park, Inverness, IV2 3BW. RAY COLLIER

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN OUR coverage of the Commons debate on equalising at 16 the age of consent for homosexuals and heterosexuals we attributed remarks to Sir Patrick Cormack which distorted what he said. We said he claimed that he believed that homosexuals were "not only different" from heterosexuals but should not be regarded "as equal or equivalent". Sir Patrick, as Hansard confirms, was speaking not of homosexuals, but of homosexual practices. What he actually said was, "I speak, quite unashamedly, for the traditional, orthodox Christian point of view, which holds that homosexuality and lesbian practices are not another and an equivalent normality; and which holds that they are practices that not only are different from heterosexual behaviour, but should not be ranked as equal or equivalent to it."

TECHNICAL problems created mayhem on some copies of Page 3, *Guardian* Education, yesterday, combining elements intended for different editions of the paper. It meant that the captions on the page did not relate to the pictures, and one of the headlines did not relate to the story that

appeared beneath it. Apologies.

THE SCOTLAND player sent off in the World Cup game with Morocco, was not George Burley, as we said in our Page 1 report yesterday. It was Craig Burley, as we reported correctly on Page 1 of yesterday's Sport section. George is Craig's uncle.

IN THE Glossaire/glossary, with the Language column, Page 8, *Guardian* Education, June 23, we gave the wrong meaning of the initials CFDT, saying they stood for Confédération Française des Travailleurs. We should have said, Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail. The CFDT is not a union, but a confederation of unions, something like the TUC, though France has three such bodies. Latest published membership figure for the CFDT is 701,180 (December 1997), followed by 647,200 members of the CGT (Confédération Générale du Travail) and an estimated 400,000 members of Force Ouvrière.

JENNI Murray, describing a planned trip to New York with her family, Page 9, *Guardian* Travel, June 20,

said, "After staying in New York we shall be going to Grand Central Station to take a train to Boston, a fantastic journey." No trains to Boston leave from Grand Central. They go from Penn Station.

THE CHILD shown in a photograph with Louise Woodward, Page 2, June 23, was not Matthew Eappen, as captioned, but Brendan Eappen.

THE PRESS Association reporter who was injured by a gang of "English hooligans" in Toulouse, Page 4, June 23, was Andrew Woodcock, not Andrew Woodward. Sorry.

THE NAME of the television presenter Johnny Vaughan was misspelled in an article headed, *Celebrity nobodies*, Page 18, June 23. Sorry.

FOR THE past two weeks, June 11 and June 18, OnLine has re-located Microsoft's headquarters to Richmond, suggesting a move to West London or Yorkshire. The home of the company remains in Redmond, near Seattle, Washington state.

It is the policy of the *Guardian* to correct errors as soon as possible. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 239 6250 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The *Guardian*, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 239 5897. E-mail: readers@guardian.co.uk

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صكا من الامل

June 25 1998

TOMORROW: Dash for

Financial Editor: Ben Clark
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AT&T in \$48bn cable deal

AT&T has agreed to buy a 50% stake in the world's largest cable company, Time Warner Cable, for \$48 billion. The deal would create a new media giant, combining AT&T's telecommunications and Time Warner's entertainment assets. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to close in the third quarter of 1998.

Telecom deals

Company	Deal Value
AT&T-TC	\$48bn
BT-Miracom	\$37bn
BT-Nynex	\$25.6bn

SEC snaps up telecoms stocks

The SEC has announced a series of acquisitions, including the purchase of BT, which is valued at \$48 billion. The deal is expected to create a new media giant, combining AT&T's telecommunications and Time Warner's entertainment assets. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to close in the third quarter of 1998.

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AT&T in \$48bn cable deal

Mark Tran in New York

AMERICA'S largest telephone company, AT&T, announced yesterday a \$48 billion (\$29.5 billion) purchase of cable television group Tele-Communications to create a one-stop shop for communications.

If approved by anti-trust regulators, the deal would allow AT&T-TCI to sell long-distance and local calls, wireless, cable and Internet services.

The move represents a direct threat to the regional phone companies, currently monopolising the \$100 billion-a-year market. They have defended their turf tenaciously, but now AT&T has access to their markets through TCI's cable connections into some 17 million homes.

The merger would "offer a full portfolio of services with one connection from one company," said AT&T chairman Michael Armstrong at a New York press conference.

Analysts compared yesterday's merger agreement with the Citicorp-Travelers deal that seeks to provide one-stop shopping for financial services. "It's an innovative step," said Dwight Allen of Deloitte & Touche consulting.

Until recently, AT&T has largely remained on the sidelines as other telecommunications companies have combined. It did try to merge with SBC Communications, the aggressive phone company from Texas, then backed off in the face of opposition from anti-trust regulators.

SBC has since become one of the most powerful players in telecommunications after mergers with Pacific Telesis and Ameritech. The spate of blackouts, deals, has prompted critics to say the 1996 Telecommunications Act has been undermined.

Congress passed the act to stimulate competition between long-distance, local and cable companies, previously prevented from entering each other's markets.

AT&T officials claimed that

consumers would benefit. "This is the most pro-competitive, pro-consumer combination in the history of the industry," said Leo Hindery, TCI's president. "This is the sort of transaction the 1996 Telecommunications Act was created for."

The merger announcement marked the second big deal for Michael Armstrong since taking over AT&T last October. In January, AT&T paid \$11.9 billion for Teleport Communications Group which provides local phone service for businesses.

Mr Armstrong was brought in when AT&T had lost its way under Robert Allen after a merger with NCR. He had revived Hughes Electronics, after leaving IBM when he was passed over for the top job in favour of Louis Gerstner.

For John Malone, TCI's founder, the deal marks a step closer to his vision of a convergence between cable and telecommunications.

An engineer by training, Mr Malone was the first to sketch out the possibilities of cable, a world of two-way wires capable of carrying phone services, interactive video and a dizzying array of viewing choices. He stands to profit handsomely from the deal as the biggest shareholder.

In 1993, he struck a deal to sell TCI to Bell Atlantic, one of the regional phone companies, for \$16.7 billion. The deal collapsed amid a culture clash between TCI's entrepreneurial style and Bell Atlantic's more stodgy manner.

Under yesterday's agreement, AT&T would own TCI's cable business while maintaining an alliance with TCI's Liberty Media Group, which includes stakes in some of America's most popular cable networks, including Discovery, Black Entertainment Television and Fox/Liberty Networks.

Liberty Media would operate independently under Mr Malone. AT&T would also control TCI's stake in @home, a leading provider of high-speed Internet access to homes.



Ivan Massow is one of Britain's leading advisers after starting in a squat eight years ago

PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

Gay entrepreneur makes finance fun for cool and young

Financial advice gets a brand image in Covent Garden, writes Liz Stuart

INDEPENDENT financial advisers conjure an unpleasant image of a sweaty man sitting behind a grey desk in Basingstoke — the antithesis of all things cool.

Enter Ivan Massow. Young, gay and an IFA, he

started in a London squat eight years ago and is one of the largest advisers in the country, with 15,000 mostly gay clients and three branches in London, Edinburgh and Manchester. He hopes to do for financial advice what Rich-

ard Branson, the Virgin chief, did for financial products.

Next month he opens a six-storey advice studio designed by Ben Mather, an interior decorator, in Covent Garden, London, next to the Ivy restaurant. The centre, with a refectory, croche and dog kennel, is designed in appeal to younger people, gay or straight, who usually prefer to visit a dentist than seek financial advice.

Mr Massow has appointed Mother, the advertising agency best known for its Kickers and Channel 5 campaigns, to promote the Massow centre. A £1 million advertising campaign will run in cinemas, trendy magazines, on taxis and even bottles of water sold in gyms and clubs. The

agency will take a small stake in the company.

"I have never turned anyone away who wants financial advice. This is about giving help to anyone without prejudice, and that is attractive whether you are gay or straight. It is about young, urban people who are also exactly those most at danger of being targeted by direct selling companies which can be so dangerous in financial terms," said Mr Massow. He plans to open three other such centres within five years.

A Mother spokesman said: "We are going to create a brand. At the moment there are no brands in independent financial advice. If a friend asked me to recommend someone, I would not be able to name a single one."

Caspian to close loss-makers

Jill Treanor

CASPIAN Securities, the specialist emerging markets investment bank set up by one of the City's best-known characters, last night announced it was closing its unprofitable businesses and seeking buyers for others.

The latest casualty of the turmoil in Asia, Caspian has been the subject of speculation for many months, particularly since March, when its founder, Christopher Heath,

stood down as chief executive.

At the height of his career in the late 1980s, Mr Heath was one of the City's highest-paid bankers. He made his name at Barings, where he built up its business in Asia.

Anthony Walton, brought in as Caspian's new chief executive in March, advised the board to close the loss-making units and sell out of others on the basis that the group's high operating costs and the depressed state of many emerging markets would make profits difficult to

achieve in the short and medium term.

Negotiations are already underway for some of Caspian's operations.

Such is Mr Heath's reputation that he has attracted a string of high-profile bankers to Caspian, including Rupert Pennington, former deputy-governor of the Bank of England and editor of *The Economist*.

Set up towards the end of 1995, Caspian's aim was to provide a full range of investment banking services in emerging markets. Employing approximately

350 people around the world, its main offices are in London, New York and Hong Kong.

Mr Heath, along with other directors, put his own money in to Caspian.

Mr Walton said last night: "Caspian remains strongly capitalised and it is my view, supported by the board, that the best use of that capital is repatriation to shareholders."

Some of Caspian's clients become anxious about dealing with the group in recent months when emerging market stocks started to tumble.

Ministers review BNFL's American plans

Celia Weston
Industrial Correspondent

BRITISH Nuclear Fuels' ambitions to expand in the United States were still under threat last night as ministers reviewed its plans to acquire the nuclear interests of US power engineering group Westinghouse.

BNFL, which remains in state control, denied that any public money would be used for the American deal, estimated to cost \$600 million. "It would be self-financing," a spokesman said.

But ministers are understood to fear that taxpayers will foot the bill for millions of dollars of Westinghouse's nuclear clean-up liabilities in the US and the UK.

Labour is also very sensitive to the possibility that the acquisition would clear the way for large quantities of American nuclear waste to be imported, particularly after the blow to its green credentials over the Dounreay facility dealing with a tiny amount of spent fuel from the former Soviet republic of Georgia.

Ministers are also under pressure from Ireland and Norway about granting BNFL new licences for waste discharges on land, into the sea and into the air. The issue has been placed at the top of the agenda for an international meeting next month.

Westinghouse's nuclear business, put up for sale after it was swallowed by the US television network CBS, specialises in manufacturing reactor equipment and fuel.

Notebook

Oil still trading in troubled waters



Edited by
Lisa Buckingham

IT WAS like a blast from the past yesterday when that best known of cartels, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, met in Vienna to sort out what its members could do to help revive the oil price. For the first time in a while the shenanigans of the 11 Opec countries may actually have some impact on prices and the market. But it cannot be expected to happen overnight.

Oil has now been trading in the \$12 to \$14 a barrel band for some time, and moving it back to the \$14 to \$16 band, or even \$16 to \$20, will be a consequence of a number of factors. Pronouncements of production cuts from Opec, even if they appear credible, will not on their own shift the price into a higher range. Production cuts need the support of other factors, such as increasing demand, continuing shortfalls in the growth of supply outside Opec countries and a really bitter winter to soak up some of the lakes of oil stocks. So don't expect much impact before the end of the year.

The irony, of course, is that the sharp downturn in the oil price since October last year has been, in part, a product of the Saudis' insistence that the market could absorb more production — a decision unfortunately made before the extent of the Asian economic crises or the impact of a mild winter had become apparent.

Sexy pensions

BURIED among those who already have company pensions and PEPs and those for whom saving of any description would bust the weekly budget is a bulging bracket of more or less affluent folk who are simply turned off by the whole idea of personal finance.

The notion of scouring the comparative interest rate tables in weekend supplements or assessing the front-loaded charges on an endowment policy holds all the appeal of a Saturday night croquet class.

It has always been clear that AT&T could still sort up bags of management time in trying to integrate two companies with very different cultures.

The most important aspects of the deal, though, have yet to come. In the transaction, AT&T enters into a bulging bracket of more or less affluent folk who are simply turned off by the whole idea of personal finance.

Consumers clearly have the appetite to try something new. In the case, the telephone insurance business, has been hugely successful, while the new breed of super-market bank accounts has already mopped up a strong following and the ubiquitous Richard Branson's Virgin group is demonstrating pulling power in the interminably dull world of personal equity plans.

Still, saving remains distasteful. It is a regulator's nightmare.

British firms fail to invest in R&D

David Gow
Industrial Editor

MORE than half of Britain's leading 100 companies failed to invest a penny in research and development last year, and a further quarter invested less than one per cent of their overall sales, according to figures underlining the country's poor record.

The annual R&D Scoreboard, compiled by Company Reporting for the Department of Trade and Industry, shows that the 516 companies investigated spent a total of £10.5 billion last year, up 6.2 per cent on 1996. But the UK performance of investing 1.9 per cent of overall sales compares with international

levels of 4 per cent.

David Tonkin, director of Company Reporting, said: "If we are not careful, we will slowly fade away." Britain had a small number of world leaders. "We are second-rate and the last among the five leading countries." The others were the US, Japan, Germany and France.

Pointing out that 51 of the FTSE 100 companies failed to invest last year, Dr Tonkin said many were in financial services, but also in food retailing and brewing.

Even Harry Ramsden's, the restaurant chain, had spent large sums on R&D. "If a fish and chip restaurant group can legitimately spend money on R&D like product development, why can't companies in almost any sector?"

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 2.676	Germany 2.916	Malaysia 6.53	Singapore 2.70
Austria 20.56	Greece 491.21	Malta 0.537	South Africa 9.56
Belgium 60.26	Hong Kong 12.54	Netherlands 3.278	Spain 248.29
Canada 2.381	India 71.45	New Zealand 5.15	Sweden 12.25
Cyprus 0.857	Ireland 1.151	Norway 12.54	Switzerland 2.68
Denmark 11.19	Israel 6.09	Portugal 297.24	Turkey 425.830
Finland 8.982	Italy 2.886	Saudi Arabia 6.14	USA 1.62
France 9.773			

Supplied by Reuters (excluding rupee, shilling and dollar)

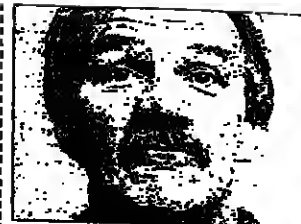
berry fails
weather
a storm

France has a limited supply of products for export, but the government is trying to make the most of the situation. The government is trying to make the most of the situation. The government is trying to make the most of the situation.

In the World Cup sports section



France 98
France star clear of high-flying Super Eagles 14
Under-fire rolls up before Fifa World Cup Clogger 15
Kluemann tries to clear the air for Germany Brown defiant in retreat 16



Stamp duty
Uttley accuses All Blacks of double standards 19



Trouble afoot
Rusedski pulls out and splits with coach 20

TheGuardian Sport

Thursday June 25 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk/worldcup

France 98



Man of the moment... Michael Owen, who may make the starting line-up against Colombia in England's final group match, celebrates his equaliser against Romania. BEN RADFORD

England split over Owen

David Lacey in La Baule reports on tension in the training camp as D-Day approaches

SINCE England lost 2-1 to Romania in Toulouse the debate about what Glenn Hoddle should do next has posed two questions. Should Michael Owen begin tomorrow's match against Colombia in Lens? And is Hoddle wise to persist with a three-man back line so easily dissected by Romanian passing and running?

So far only Alan Shearer, the England captain, has indicated that he thinks Owen ought to be on at the start tomorrow, which would mean Teddy Sheringham returning to the bench. Yesterday John Gorman, Hoddle's assistant, joined the chorus of approval for Owen's virtues as a substitute but added little except that "he looks like a player who's been here before".

Owen was unavailable to reporters yesterday, a sure sign that the argument about him is getting to the England camp. David Davies, the Football Association's director of public affairs and its World Cup spokesman, said Owen had already spoken to the media after Monday's game and now was not the time to interview him further.

If this was designed to take the pressure off an 18-year-old striker then all well and good. Not that Owen appears to need protecting, often giving the impression that he would be at home answering Compton's questions or giving the Dimbleby lecture. However, it is equally likely that Hoddle under pressure by risking the sort of headline which the most innocent remark by Owen might produce.

Question: "Are you ready to start against Colombia, Michael, if Glenn picks you?"

Answer: "Yes, of course, otherwise I wouldn't be here." Put a bit of top spin on that and you get a back-page splash: **PLAY ME! - OWEN**.

Many critics feel that Hoddle should revert to 4-4-2 from 3-5-2, if only for this one game, to give England a better chance of a draw. But Tony Adams, so badly in need of an orthodox centre-back partner when Viorel Moldovan scored Romania's opening goal, yesterday dismissed the issue as irrelevant.

"If someone makes a mistake it doesn't matter whether you're a four or a three," he insisted.

As one supply of bromide follows another, with Hoddle, his assistants and dribble of players addressing every topic under the sun except the only one that matters, namely the identity of the next England team, it is hard to avoid the

feeling that this is a countdown to D-Day in reverse. The troops are confined to camp, cut off from contact with the world, awaiting the order to go. The difference this time is that the Channel crossings will be the other way if England do not avoid defeat tomorrow night. No, to be fair, they are not completely unaware of what is happening outside, for Davies pointed out, Sky News is on 24 hours a day, an experience which will be understood by those who have read George Orwell's 1984.

Under Hoddle, in fact, England's press conference have perfected a style of newswpeak which is Orwellian in concept. The Ministry of Truth would have been proud of the daily output of vague verbiage dressed up as news.

Paul Ince, for example, is struggling to get fit for tomorrow. On Tuesday Hoddle rated his chances as 50-50. Yesterday Gorman said he was a lot better and had a good chance of playing. But he is still only 50-50.

Gorman is a pleasant man who would never have to be ordered to sit down because he was rocking the boat. What he said yesterday boiled down to this: Owen has a fantastic career ahead of him, Hoddle is his own man, and you should never underestimate Colombia because Carlos Valderrama is a world-class player.

At least you know where you are with Adams, now England's most regular interviewee. The reason for this is that since he faced up to his alcoholism he talks in counsel-speak and, whatever the question may be, the answer seldom varies. The words "positive" and "focused" crop up at regular intervals.

"I'm totally focused," Adams intoned. "We'll be trying to win on Friday. If you play for a draw you get nothing. The best way to defend is to attack."

No doubt these daily England briefings are performed with the best intentions but between matches they really boil down to one thing: All Quiet On The Western Front.

DAY 16			
Group E			
France v Romania	England v Colombia	Holland v Mexico	Belgium v Korea
O Venue: St Etienne	O Venue: Paris	O Venue: St Etienne	O Venue: Paris
O Kick-off: 8.00pm BST	O Kick-off: 8.00pm BST	O Kick-off: 8.00pm BST	O Kick-off: 8.00pm BST
O Referee: Abdul Rahman Al Zaid (Saudi Arabia)	O Referee: Mario Rivas (Brazil)	O Referee: Abdul Rahman Al Zaid (Saudi Arabia)	O Referee: Mario Rivas (Brazil)
Probable line-ups	Probable line-ups	Probable line-ups	Probable line-ups
1996 Holland: 1-1 Mexico: 1-1	1996 Belgium: 2-1 Korea: 1-1	1996 Holland: 1-1 Mexico: 1-1	1996 Belgium: 2-1 Korea: 1-1
Injuries	Injuries	Injuries	Injuries
Mexico's striker Luis Hernandez (ankle) is struggling.	Belgium's Danny Boffin is out, and Francky Van Der Elst and keeper Filip De Wilt are doubtful. South Korea's striker Hwang Sun-Hong is injured.	Mexico's striker Luis Hernandez (ankle) is struggling.	Belgium's Danny Boffin is out, and Francky Van Der Elst and keeper Filip De Wilt are doubtful. South Korea's striker Hwang Sun-Hong is injured.
On a yellow card	On a yellow card	On a yellow card	On a yellow card
Asier Garcia Aspe, Jaime Cordoba, Jose Antonio Riquelme, Cuatrecasas, Blasco (Mexico)	Gordan Vidovic, Eric Defoens, Lorenzo Staelens (Belgium), Lee Min-Sung, Choi Yong-Seo, Ki Jong-Soo (South Korea)	Asier Garcia Aspe, Jaime Cordoba, Jose Antonio Riquelme, Cuatrecasas, Blasco (Mexico)	Gordan Vidovic, Eric Defoens, Lorenzo Staelens (Belgium), Lee Min-Sung, Choi Yong-Seo, Ki Jong-Soo (South Korea)

00 150

The changing faces of past England World Cup sides

England's first World Cup triumph came in 1966, when the team, managed by Alf Ramsey, defeated Germany in the final at Wembley. The team was a mix of experienced players and young talent, with Bobby Charlton, Geoff Hurst, and Peter Beardsley among the key players.

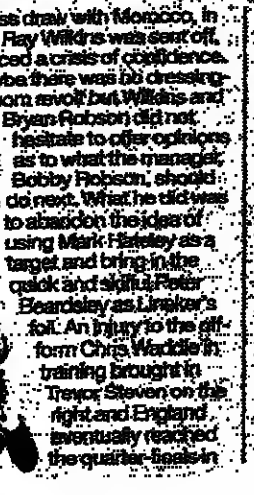
In 1982, England reached the quarter-finals but was defeated by Italy. The team was managed by Ron Greenwood and featured players like Kevin Keegan, Trevor Stretton, and Steve Coppell.

In 1986, England was defeated in the quarter-finals by Argentina. The team was managed by Graham Taylor and featured players like Peter Beardsley, Steve Hodge, and Steve Nouri.

In 1990, England reached the semi-finals but was defeated by West Germany. The team was managed by Graham Taylor and featured players like Paul Parker, Gary Stevens, and Steve Hodge.

In 1994, England was defeated in the quarter-finals by Brazil. The team was managed by Graham Taylor and featured players like Paul Parker, Gary Stevens, and Steve Hodge.

In 1998, England is currently in the group stage of the World Cup. The team is managed by Glenn Hoddle and features players like Michael Owen, Alan Shearer, and David Beckham.



«On the Bench»

Paris - June '98

«The best loved premium beer in France»

Road to the final



C

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	0	0	0	0	9
Denmark	1	1	1	0	0	4
South Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	0	0	0

F

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	1	1	0	4	7
Yugoslavia	1	1	1	0	0	4
United States	1	0	1	0	0	2
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0

SECOND ROUND

GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3	GAME 4
Sat, June 27 Brazil vs Chile	Sat, June 27 Italy vs Norway	Sun, June 28 Group C winners	Sun, June 28 Group D winners
Chile	Norway	Group C runners-up	Group D runners-up

QUARTER FINALS

GAME 5	GAME 6	GAME 7	GAME 8
Mon, June 29 Group E winners	Mon, June 29 Group F winners	Tue, July 1 Group G winners	Tue, July 1 Group H winners
Group E runners-up	Group F runners-up	Group G runners-up	Group H runners-up

SEMI FINALS

GAME 9	GAME 10	GAME 11	GAME 12
Tue, July 7 Game A winners	Wed, July 8 Game B winners	Tue, July 7 Game C winners	Wed, July 8 Game D winners
Game A runners-up	Game B runners-up	Game C runners-up	Game D runners-up

FINAL

Winner of first semi-final _____
Winner of second semi-final _____
Sunday, July 12 - St-Denis (8pm)

France 98



A call to arms... David Trézéguet of France (foreground) rises to the challenge of Denmark's Martin Jorgensen at Stade Gerland

Group C: France 2 Denmark 1

Petit provides a little comfort

Richard Williams in Lyon sees France continue to make perfect progress

IN A match of fluctuating intensity, governed on one side by the imperatives of the next round and on the other by events hundreds of miles away, France beat Denmark here yesterday to give themselves a 100 per cent record in the first round and to ensure that they avoid a meeting with the widely feared Nigerians.

The task of facing the Super Eagles now falls to the Danes, who seemed happy to lose in the first time in the tournament after scoring seven goals in their first two matches. France again showed themselves to be a team of stylish footballers — but paradoxical in that they are an attacking side whose defenders are far more effective than their forwards.

Once again they created plenty of chances, only to show a curious reluctance to make the final blow count. For Alain Jacquet, their coach, the match — his 49th since taking charge in 1994 — presented several headaches. His team have never played well in the absence of Zinedine Zidane, who foolishly got himself sent off against Saudi Arabia and was suspended not only for yesterday's match but also for the second-round fixture. For several days all France joined Joctel in attempting to devise a midfield formation that could be relied on not only to deal with the Danes but to win a knockout match against their next opponents.

The possible permutations were made even more complex by the yellow cards against the names of Didier Deschamps, Laurent Blanc and Bixente Lizarazu, making it prudent for them to remain on the bench pending the arrival of substitutes. The Arsenal midfielder following up Robert Pirès's blocked shot to drive the ball past Peter Schmeichel from the edge of the area.

Facing serious opposition from the first time in the tournament after scoring seven goals in their first two matches, France again showed themselves to be a team of stylish footballers — but paradoxical in that they are an attacking side whose defenders are far more effective than their forwards.

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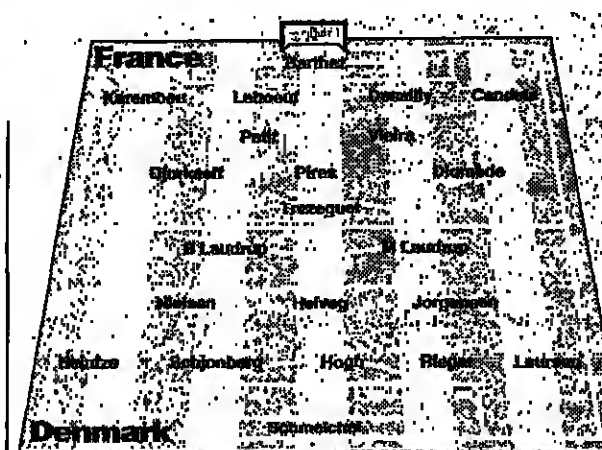
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Both goalkeepers had distinguished themselves — Schmeichel with an improvised parry from Trézéguet, Barthel with a brilliant tipover from Brian Laudrup's shot — when Denmark equalised after 42 minutes with another penalty. This time the award was less convincing as Michael Laudrup took a quick free-kick and Martin

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Too little too late as Spain pack their bags

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مكتبات الامم

France 98

Bad news for egalitarians as plucky upstarts are rudely ordered back below stairs by football's upper class

Harry Pearson



ON THE bus coming away from Stade de France after Bulgaria's draw with Paraguay, a rotund middle-aged man with a Paraguayan flag painted on each sleeve and a red, white and blue top hat surprisingly announced himself to be a Belgian. "In every World Cup, I follow the less well-known

nations," he declared cheerily. As if to prove this was no idle boast, he promptly replaced his top hat with a Panama, the broad band of which pledged allegiance to the Bafana Bafana. "The opening round," he said, "is the time of the little teams."

The Belgian's assessment, made when the competition was just three days and five games old, has proved more accurate than he perhaps intended. If he is still committed to supporting the relative unknowns, then he is going to be starved of football when the second stage begins on Saturday. In the past fortnight anyone who imagined that the

current cliché about there being "no easy games at international level any more" and pointed to the emergence of a classless football society has been forced to rethink.

France 98 has delivered fewer telling blows to the social status quo than the average Barbara Cartland novel. So far Spain and Brazil are the only seeded countries to be beaten and neither of these results quite ranks, on football's Richter scale of shocks, with the win by the United States over England in 1950 nor Cameroon's defeat of Argentina 40 years later. Nigeria are a very good side, after all, and the Spanish do have an unenviable habit

of arriving at major tournaments as dark horses only to reveal themselves as old nags when they leave the starting stalls. Norway's fans, meanwhile, have been solemnly confident of victory over the World Cup holders ever since the draw was made.

Rather than furthering egalitarian progress, this has been a World Cup in which those plucky upstarts who foresaw an opportunity for advancement have been rudely ordered back below stairs by the game's upper class. The newcomers Jamaica have been brutally dealt with by Croatia and Argentina (a cause of some relief among those of us who have come to

regard the overworked phrase Reggae Boyz in much the same way a centipede might a bout of athlete's foot); South Korea, who saw their results last time round as a sign of progress, have shipped eight goals in two matches and sacked their coach, Cha Bum-Kun; the Indomitable Lions of Cameroon have picked up more red cards than points.

EVEN the unlucky Moroccan were put firmly in their place by Brazil. Set against such performances, Japan's brace of 0-6 defeats seems like a minor triumph. At Stade de France in Bordeaux yesterday, Saudi Ara-

bia missed the last chance of becoming a team of first-timers to make it into the second round when they drew with South Africa. On paper at least, the men from "The Land of 5,000 Princes" have the most experienced squad in the finals. The starting line-up in Bordeaux included six players with more than 80 international caps. In the Saudi team, Hamzah Saleh, who was making his 40th appearance for his country, probably still regards himself as a new boy. Things have not gone quite as planned, however. In this World Cup, for once, it has not always been the better established football nations who have been guilty of taking the

opposition too lightly. There are signs that the Saudi Arabian squad's isolation, imposed on it by the national FA who insist on their top players remaining based at home, may have raised the players' view of their own abilities falsely high. Certainly they seem a long way from matching Prince Waleed Bin Bader Bin Saud's dream of a top-10 FIFA ranking within the decade. In South Africa, football has also been affected by being cut off from the rest of the world. During the years of apartheid the game there went off at a tangent, developing a style which placed almost as much value on dribbling and trickery as on goals. Vestiges of this

still remain. South Africa possesses one of the most skilful teams in the tournament, but the tendency of players such as Helman Mkhalele to try to beat one opponent too many sometimes creates the impression that you are watching a team of 11 Peter Beagries. South Africa seem likely to grow stronger and so may Saudi Arabia if their football authorities could be persuaded to relax a policy of splendid isolation. For the more immediate future the Belgian on the bus will pin his hopes on Iran beating Germany tonight. *A collection of Harry Pearson's writing on the World Cup will appear in the August issue of When Saturday Comes*

Scotland's coming home: Where did it all go wrong?



The crying game... It's all too much for one supporter as Scotland uphold a tradition of early departures. TOM JENKINS

Brown defiant after another campaign crumbles to dust

Patrick Glenn on the latest chapter in the Tartan Army's tale of great expectations which yielded only further disappointment

A RALLYING call from Craig Brown accompanied Scotland's retreat from France yesterday in the wake of another early exit from the World Cup. "There's no need to be despondent," the manager said. "We lost a game of football against Morocco but we played well enough in the other two matches to convince anyone that there is still a future."

"Alex Miller [the assistant manager] and I will sit down at the start of the season and examine our resources, see if we can change things for the European Championship, see if the promising younger players are continuing their progress and whether they can be assimilated."

"I'm still convinced that if we had enjoyed a break in any of the games we played, and with a little better concentration in the last match, especially, we would have competed seriously for qualification for the second round. As it has turned out the FIFA rankings in our group have proved to be accurate. Brazil were rated No. 1, Norway No. 2 and Morocco No. 3, where we were behind all three."

"Of course there are little concerns, especially in attack. We need to go into forward areas hoping to score rather than expecting to, if we had somebody like Brian Laudrup, for example, it would transform our team."

That may well be but the past cannot be dismissed lightly. Scotland are football's equivalent of a mercenary gang, involved in short campaigns then moving on to the next skirmish. In spite of meticulous planning their missions usually end in failure.

Perhaps the most surprising element of their latest venture is that it should have been accompanied by such high expectations of success. Before the 3-0 defeat by Morocco in Saint Etienne on Tuesday night it was widely assumed that the North Africans would present a less formidable obstacle than Brazil and Norway, whom the Scots had more than matched in the two previous Group A games even if the results — a defeat and a draw — had been tinged by misfortune.

It was also supposed that Brazil would comfortably take care of a stolid Norway side, leaving the Scots probably needing only a draw to

qualify for the second round for the first time in eight attempts. Brown had been disturbed by over-confidence among his players. "There's too much euphoria around," he said the day before the game. "We have to calm things down. We can't have our players forgetting that Morocco are a better footballing side than Norway and should have beaten them." There was

'We tend to go into forward areas hoping to score rather than expecting to'

enough evidence at the Stade Geoffroy Guichard to suggest that the manager's warning had not been taken.

With Tom Boyd and David Weir off colour in defence, leaving the normally reliable Colin Hendry cruelly exposed to the deadly incisive running of Salaheddine Bassir and Abdeljilil Hadda, the Scots were nakedly vulnerable. Jackie McNamara and Christian Dailly in the wide positions were also largely ineffective and that was too many players below par on a night when, as John Collins had said, overall excellence was required.

The first-half opener from

Bassir, who would complete a double five minutes from the end, and the goal from Hadda in the 47th minute ended all Scottish hopes.

Craig Burley, moved to midfield to capitalise on his solid finishing, promised much when he moved forward and forced the Moroccan goalkeeper, Driss Benzekri, to save from several well-placed drives. But his contribution ended in the 54th minute when he was red-carded for a frightening tackle from behind on Bassir. This latest trip to the World Cup demonstrated once again the wisdom of trying to build a new team after each major championship. The manager has always preached the need for reconstruction after each major engagement but recognises the difficulties with a small country such as Scotland and limited resources.

There is also a problem with time as one major campaign follows the other all too seamlessly. The Scots' next assignment, the European Championship qualifying series, begins in September with a trip to Lithuania.

The squad's departure from Marseille yesterday was a painful irony, as they had hoped to meet Italy at the Stade Velodrome there on Saturday, but Brown remained in the typically philosophical mood. "We may be short of genuine world class but not that short and we can look forward to the European qualifiers with some optimism."

Group F: Germany v Iran

Vogts of no confidence

Martin Thorpe in Toulouse

ON THE pitch Germany have struggled to create any threat. Off, it has been a different story.

Not only did their coach Bert Vogts threaten to quit on Monday but yesterday the players met without him to discuss the unimpressive win over the United States and the equally worrying 2-2 draw with Yugoslavia.

Germany go into this afternoon's crucial group game with Iran needing a draw or win to qualify, but also a performance to satisfy their critics.

Jürgen Klinsmann led the meeting, which may remind the German Football Federation (DFB) that it has a replacement leader in its ranks should Vogts jump or be pushed.

Certainly Vogts is a worried man. After an uncon-

vincing qualifying campaign he wrote to every player telling them to get their act together. But the message obviously did not get through. After the Yugoslavia game he accused the team of forgetting they were playing in the World Cup.

When on Sunday the DFB suggested the team might pull out of the tournament after German thugs in Lens left a French policeman in a coma, Vogts threatened to quit in protest. Cynics said he actually wanted guarantees about his position after the World Cup.

The ins and outs

GERMANY and Yugoslavia both need only a draw to qualify for the second round. Iran need to beat Germany; a draw would leave them dependent on the United States overcoming Yugoslavia by more than one goal. The US cannot go through.

Certainly several players have disappointed Vogts, notably inexperienced ones such as Jens Jeremies and Dietmar Hamann. So the 37-year-old Lothar Matthäus, whose career seemed over three years ago, will start against Iran. Vogts also indicated that the experienced midfielder Thomas Helmer, back from injury, would play.

The way Germany salvaged a draw against Yugoslavia after being 2-0 down suggests that they still have the ability to get a result when they need one. But can they also hope to qualify. Now a place in history is within their grasp: a win over Germany today would prevent the three-times World Cup winners from going beyond the first round for the first time in 60 years.

The US Soccer Federation's president Alan Rothenberg said it would be reassessing whether Sampson was "the right man".

US v Yugoslavia

Lalas lashes 'masterplan'

A MUTINOUS mood has settled on the Britanny training camp of the United States, playing only for pride against Yugoslavia in Nantes this evening, and Alex Lalas, a cornerstone of the USA 94 team, has become the complainer-in-chief.

The former Padova defender, who has yet to appear in France 98, was particularly critical of the US coach Steve Sampson's indecision: "If this was the master plan, good God, it was pretty masterful." The Yugoslavia-born Preki Radosavljevic added: "I was expecting to play but I didn't look like it now. For two years I was never really given a fair shot."

The US Soccer Federation's president Alan Rothenberg said it would be reassessing whether Sampson was "the right man".

US Soccer Federation's president Alan Rothenberg said it would be reassessing whether Sampson was "the right man".

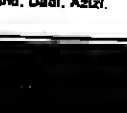
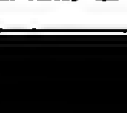
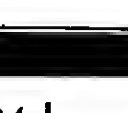
Tale of the tape against Morocco

	Boyd	Collins	Durie	Hendry	T. McKinlay	Weir
Shots on target	0	0	2	2	0	0
Shots off target	0	1	1	1	2	0
Passes attempted	3	40	20	37	39	34
Pass completion	40%	78%	74%	82%	74%	59%
Tackles	0	3	2	2	1	2
Clean sheets, blocks	1	14	1	1	2	0
Free-kicks conceded	0	0	3	0	2	1

	Booth	Burley	Dailly	Gallacher	Laudrup	McNamee
Shots on target	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shots off target	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passes attempted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pass completion	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Tackles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clean sheets, blocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Free-kicks conceded	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Goals	Set pieces	Set pieces	Distribution	Overall
Goals scored	4	5	22	77%	Goals Collins (pen), Burley
Yellow cards	0	0	0	0	Yellow cards Durie, Jackson 2, Gallacher
Red cards	0	0	0	0	Red card Burley

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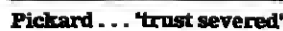
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Rusedski and coach split



Early exit . . . Greg Rusedski leaves Wimbledon yesterday after withdrawing because of an injury to his left ankle

Frank Keating

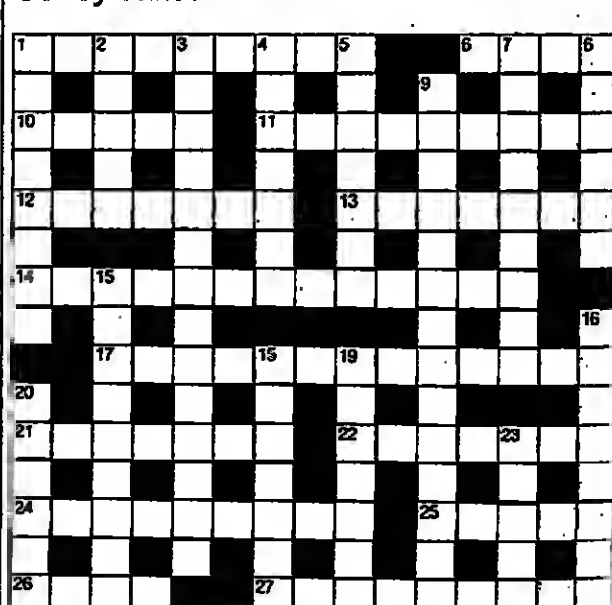
Clinton flies to storm a Chinese la
out red ca

Bill Clinton last night escaped into a storm over China's treatment of dissidents as he began a historic week-end visit, the first by a United States president into the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989.

White House officials were compiling a list of Chinese leaders to express their disapproval of the Chinese government's actions days before the Clinton will arrive in Tiananmen Square for an official protest.

[illegible]

Guardian Crossword No 21,310
Set by Janus



Across

- 1 Sporting fixtures the devious may consider movable (8)
- 6 Leave out decoration on object (4)
- 10 Test to discover content of cracker (5)
- 11 Insect of help on sea trip (5)
- 12 Authority providing pass badly torn inside (7)
- 13 Criminal bringing crowds to island (7)
- 14 Agreeing with special reporter (13)
- 17 Rave about material courier gives pub liability (4,9)
- 21 Last sea to be featured in map collections (7)
- 22 One who interferes with fruit, it is said (7)
- 24 Bird-scarer accepting sliding fee as royal bodyguard (5)
- 25 An actor's cubs (5)
- 26 A psychic phenomenon
- 3 Owners installing one with proper locks (14)
- 4 Boat that has provoked head-banging (7)
- 5 He may not stick around long when the heat is on (7)
- 7 Met role model on motorway with car accessory (5)
- 8 Tipsy saint taking first evening drink (5)
- 9 Composition reached by the homemakers' union (3,4,7)
- 15 Arms in continuous circulation? (5)
- 16 Hypocritical person's easier hire purchase arrangement (8)
- 18 Appropriate site for alcoholic pub/caf  (7)
- 19 Doctor in clear over butcher's hook (7)
- 20 Explorer's vestiment found inside anakin (5)
- 23 Bathroom feature for when toilet rollers out the toilet (8)

Down

- 1 Wild animals turn up to see belligerent bird (8)
- 2 Historian who had to continue performing? (5)

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Ulster vot

Polls point to voting across sectarian divide
as public backs Good Friday agreement

Joe Mullin
Island Correspondent

JOANNE O'Malley, her jaw grimly set, marched the half-mile up the hill to Newton-
ton high school. She
of just come from her home
a village square, a scene

of devastation,
wrecked, and
and wind.
she was dispirited
her own
republican
had brought
South Armagh.
Northern
at the polls

Inside

Britain

Autumn
Faint
And
Crisis
P...

"Football
had never

the National and the Umbrella Couple symbol are



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Frank Keating, page 18

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